The New-York Times.

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IMPORTANT FROM ALBANY

Exciting Scenes in the Assembly Chamber.

Tammany, Mozart and Pandemonium Outdone.

Disgraceful Unparliamentary Proceedings.

Violent Speeches of Messrs. Murphy, Fields and Other Democratic Members.

The Lobby Crammed with New-York and Brooklyn Roughs.

A VOTE FOR SPEAKER PREVENTED.

Adjournment of the Assembly Until Wednesday Evening.

Mr. Callicott Threatened with Personal Violence.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ALBANY, Saturday, Jan. 17, 1863.

The curtain goes up for another and an exciting scene. The actors enter, each knowing his part, though I fancy not all pleased. There must be the vanquished and the vanquishers; and it is not difficult to distinguish by whom the separate roles have been rehearsed.

The play commences.

Mr. Fields, of New-York, wants the journal, as read, amended, by striking out the word "interruption," so that it shall read that at 12 o'clock the House, shall proceed to vote for Speaker," without debate. He says the Democratic side agree with him that the word objected to was not in the resolution as adopted.

Mr. Murphy, of Erie, don't know or much care how the resolution was adopted, or how the journal should read, for he will not be bound by either. The Union side, speaking through Mr. Sanderson and others, express their willingness to amend the journal. Mr. Lester understands that the word "debate" covered explanation as well, and Mr. Field again declares for himself, and will do advise his friends to act, that no factious opposition shall be made to proceeding with the vote. The Union side say agreed, again—let the journal be amended, but Mr. Murphy, of Erie, extremely sharp set, won't agree, and gives notice that he has no idea of time; that he can't tell the difference between five hours and five minutes, and proceeds to launch upon Mr. Callicott a volume of abuse, more damaging to himself, and distasteful to a large majority of the Democratic side, than hurtful to Mr. C. The lobby, packed by sympathizers, applauded Mr. Murphy vociferously. They, at least, are best on filibustering, and manifestly think they have come to be a coordinate branch. And so it goes on—the hour of 12 arrives—when the Clerk announces the special order—the election of Speaker. The journal, not having been approved, the pending motion being to amend, Mr. Fields raises the order that the special order cannot proceed, and proceeds to debate in point of order.

Meanwhile Mr. Dean Richmond is holding sessions in the cloak-room, whither members make frequent visits.

Mr. Murphy, who has a heavy part, and a voice to match, proceeds with his assault on Mr. Callicott—bitter, unmeasured, piled up, vengeful. The crammed, jammed, packed lobby and galleries shout, yell, stamp and clap, as never did lobby or galleries—whether of Mozart or Tammany—before. Pandemonium comes again, excelled on no other stage. Mr. Murphy responds to the lobby, and the lobby echoes back—"Three cheers for Murphy," and they are given. Bottles—one, two, three, four, five, six—are brought in and placed in the neighborhood of Mr. Murphy and the Democratic side. They say it is cider, but it looks as much like something else as that pleasant fluid.

Mr. Murphy thinks the gentleman's name should be changed to *Calico*—and the lobbies and galleries, taking it up, shout back "*Calico*," "*Calico*," "Hustle him out," "Hustle him out," and many other things of the same agreeable character.

Finally Mr. Murphy wants to have the special order postponed till Tuesday morning. Meantime he thought the two sides could agree on some other man besides Mr. Callicott.

Mr. Gover, of New-York, proceeds to speak to the motion and the lobbies. Mr. Gover raises a point of order. The Clerk calls Mr. Gover to order, who appeals, and proceeds to debate, when the Clerk decides that a debatable question cannot arise from a non-debatable question. Mr. Fields, very excited, takes the floor again, and this time addresses the lobbies and galleries; he threatens mysterious things, and gives notice that if Mr. Callicott is elected Speaker, "it will be done under circumstances that everybody will regret." He knew the fearful state of feeling, the gathering of the people round about the Capitol, and warned the Union men against undertaking the consummation of what he denominated the bargain to elect Mr. Callicott. Again the lobbies and galleries yelled, shouted, stamped, clapped. The Clerk explains his ruling.

All the while the Union men keep silent. The positions and stops of the scene do not bring them to the foot-lights. They wait in propriety. The Democrats and the crammed, jammed, packed lobbies and galleries have it all their own way. The Union men listen unmoved to the excited language and warnings by Mr. Fields about physical violence. His comparison of Mr. Callicott to a shad, wakes up the lobbies and galleries, as does the declaration that the vote for speaker "never shall be taken" till the journal has been amended; his heated declamation about revolutions from small sparks, and his incendiary language, concluding with the notice that "*with Mr. Callicott in the Chair no legislation shall take place this Winter.*" "Indeed," said that gentleman, "I might say, *elect your Speaker, but you never can inaugurate him.*"

Mr. Fields then proceeds to charge Mr. Callicott with corruption in previous sessions, and threatens to produce affidavits.

Mr. Gover followed Mr. Fields. After giving notice that he would be bound neither by the vote of the House nor by the ruling of the Chair, he proceeded to speak in behalf of his "humble constituents." But Mr. Gover is a different man, and far less experienced actor than Mr. Fields, and does not much resemble Mr. Murphy, both of which gentlemen know how to play like any Kirby or J. R. Scott, to please the groundlings; whereas Mr. Gover is better suited to the role of the "Walking Gentleman," having little occasion to say anything. The lobbies and galleries manifest impatience, and though some one cries out "Sape," respectful silence is observed till he gets through, which appears to be considerably sooner than he himself expected.

Mr. Hutchinson of New-York, who has for some time been learning his part, now advances to the foot-lights, and in almost every particular does violence to the very judicious advice administered by Hamlet to the actors. Nevertheless, the lobbies and galleries rather like him, though not as they liked Mr. Fields and Mr. Murphy. Mr. Hutchinson, like Mr. Gover, confines himself mainly to reiterating what Mr. F. and M. had before, and, perhaps, better said. Hence the lobbies and galleries having cheered the good things of these gentlemen once, do not trouble themselves to cheer things coming second-hand, only when the Speaker pronounces the name Judas Iscariot, which seemed to please them very much, as if they recognized an old friend.

The time to withdraw—otherwise, the time for committing this to your messenger, is at hand. It is past 2 P. M. Mr. Hutchinson is going in a high, but rather soothing tone. It would be difficult to say precisely what he is saying or has said. He is consuming time, and that agreeable stimulant, cider. Mr. Davis rises to a point of order, when Mr. Fields informs him that "we are beyond points of order," whereupon the lobbies and galleries shout again.

The Union men know their way, and will pursue it. They will stand by Mr. Callicott. It is due to him that they should. The proceedings, thus far, have had the effect to consolidate them. With the Democrats, Mozartism in its lower strata is rampant, but it has a limit.

2:30 P. M.—On motion of Mr. Bates, (Union,) of Steuben, the House adjourned till Wednesday, 7 P. M.

The roughs from New-York, Brooklyn and Albany filled all the neighborhood of the Capitol, and waited for Mr. Callicott, against whom threats of personal violence were freely indulged. He, however, left the Assembly Chamber, and reached his lodgings through the State Library Room. Some fears for his personal safety are entertained.

The motive for moving the adjournment I do not pretend to understand, nor do I believe it was based on any settled purpose—rather the want of pluck, I should say.

Many—possibly a majority of the members—have left for home. RODERICK.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

ASSEMBLY.

ALBANY, Saturday, Jan. 17.

The Assembly met at 11 o'clock this morning.

The excitement was of the most intense description.

The galleries and lobbies were packed with people.

When the Journal was read by the Clerk, the resolution offered by Mr. Sanderson yesterday was found to read that "the vote for Speaker shall be taken at 12 o'clock to-day, without interruption or debate."

Mr. Fields, of New-York, moved to correct the Journal by striking out the word "interruption" which had been interpolated. The resolution should read "without debate." He moved to correct by striking out the word "interruption."

A long and heated debate ensued upon this which lasted beyond 12 o'clock.

The Clerk here interrupted the debate to announce the "special order."

Mr. Fields raised the point of order that the "Journal of the House must be first corrected and indorsed."

Mr. Murphy, of Erie, then took the floor to speak to that question.

Half Past Twelve O'clock.—Mr. Murphy is still speaking. He severely attacked Mr. Callicott, reading extracts from the New-York Times denouncing him (Callicott) for corruption, charging him with being interested in the Gridiron Railroad, and as a man who had been in the market, and would be there again. He (Murphy) appealed to his honorable opponents on this floor not to thrust a Benedict Arnold upon the House to sit in the Chair, and in the shadow of the picture of the immortal Washington—a picture which reminds one of the pure and happy days of this Republic, and which reminds us, also, but too well of the sufferings of our country. He earnestly appealed to his honorable political opponents on this floor not to cast a firebrand into this House for the remainder of the session.

Two o'clock P. M.—The excitement in the Assembly and around the Capitol still continues.

Mr. Fields has the floor. In the course of his remarks he warned the Republicans not to interrupt legislation this Winter. Let them place their man in the chair by unfair means and there should be no legislation this session. Your Susquehanna Railroad bills, your Broadway Railroad bills, and your other bills, will burn to ashes on your hands. He would say more. "Outrage the rights of sixty-three members on this floor, representing a majority of the people of the State of New-York, and you might find a difficulty in inaugurating your candidate."

Mr. Hutchinson took the floor at the conclusion of Mr. Fields' remarks.

The Clerk ruled that no debate was in order, as the special order was before the House.

Mr. Fields desired to know what was the special order before the House. The question was "on the correction of the Journal," and nothing could be done until this question was settled.

Mr. Hutchinson again rose to speak, and in the course of his remarks assailed Mr. Callicott with much severity, and vindicated the course of the Democratic members on this floor.

Mr. Fields again took the floor, upon the conclusion of Mr. Hutchinson's speech, and during his remarks, asserted that before Mr. Callicott could be elected, the Democratic members were prepared to produce affidavits, showing that a Committee of Investigation ought to be raised to inquire into the honesty and integrity of the member the Republican members sought to place in the Speaker's chair, to shed from *his (Callicott's) place corruption over the whole body.*

Three o'clock P. M.—There is a rumor now that an adjournment of the Assembly will be conceded until Wednesday evening, by some Republicans, and that Mr. Callicott will be withdrawn.

Three o'clock P. M.—Mr. Hutchinson again rose to speak, reviewing the history of the Democratic Party and its services to the country, and discussing National topics at length, amid loud and enthusiastic applause from the galleries and the lobbies.

After speaking for nearly an hour, without any prospect of closing, Mr. Hutchinson was asked by the Republican members to give way for a motion to adjourn until Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock.

Mr. Hutchinson acceded to the request.

Amidst much excitement and confusion, Mr. Bates, Republican, took the floor, and said he warned the Democratic members not to suppose that the Republicans gave way because they were intimidated by threats. The waves might fancy they moved the rock, but the rock remained unshaken. For the purpose of further deliberation, he moved that the Assembly adjourn until Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock.

The motion prevailed, and the Assembly adjourned.

Caucus of the Republicans.

ALBANY, Saturday, Jan. 17.

The Republicans held a caucus this evening. The attendance was not very full. No indications were evinced of an intention to withdraw Mr. Callicott for the speakership.

The friends of Judge Dean refuse to let him withdraw for the present and insist upon his waiting until matters are further developed.

Strike at the Charlestown Navy Yard.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 17.

The mechanics and laborers of the Charlestown Navy-yard are moving for increased wages, and to obtain the money now due them from the Government.

The ship-carpenters demand that they receive hereafter three dollars a day for their work.

Resolutions were adopted to carry out the objects of the meeting, and a Committee was appointed to make preparations for another meeting, which will be held to-night.

THE VICTORY IN ARKANSAS.

The Capture of Arkansas Post by Porter and McClernand.

Eight Regiments of Rebels "Bagged."

A Large Amount of Ammunition Captured.

Our Loss Not so Heavy as at First Reported.

A to. Ill., Saturday, Jan. 17.

The ram *Storm* left Arkansas Post on Monday, and arrived here to-day.

She confirms the capture of that place.

The attack was made on Friday evening by the gunboats.

The land force debarked two miles below, and marched to the rear of the rebel fortifications and took them.

Two miles below the main forts the rebels had erected earthworks, which were shelled by our gunboats.

The rebels replied to the fire, doing some damage to the gunboats. Three balls entered the pilothouse of the *Lexington*, killing four men.

The main fort, which is represented as very strong, surrendered on Sunday.

The officers of the *Storm* say that six rebel regiments were captured in the earthworks at daylight on Monday.

Two Texas regiments, which came to reinforce the place, being ignorant that it had surrendered, were also captured.

Nearly all the ammunition taken by the rebels from the steamer *Blue Wing* some days since, was recaptured.

A reconnoissance which was sent up the river had not returned when the *Storm* left.

Our loss is not so heavy as first reported.

IMPORTANT REBEL NEWS.

A Movement Against Wilmington and Goldsboro.

We find the following dispatches from North Carolina in the Richmond *Whig*, of Friday morning last:

WILMINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 14.

All quiet here. It is believed that the fleet and land forces have left Newbern and Fort Macon. Their destination is, probably, Goldsboro and Wilmington, simultaneously. All non-combatants have been requested to leave town.

RALEIGH, Saturday, Jan. 15.

The *State Journal* has advices from Kinston of this date. Forty regiments of Abolitionists left Newbern yesterday in the direction of Wilmington, crossing Brice's Creek. A courier from Maj. Hawthorne reached Kinston this morning, and says the enemy, six to ten thousand strong, are advancing toward Kinston, concentrating at Cole Creek.

GEN. ROSECRANS' DEPARTMENT.

The Capture of Our Supply Boats—Barbarous Treatment of Negroes—The River Rising—Desertion of an Entire Rebel Regiment—Longstreet at Shelbyville.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.

NASHVILLE, Friday, Jan. 16, 1863—P. M.

Brigadier-Gen. Forrest, of the rebel army, with a force of about four thousand men and twelve pieces of light artillery, attacked our relief and storeships coming up the Cumberland River, and succeeded in capturing five steamboats, laden with valuable commissary stores, and the gunboat *Stodd*. Several of the boats contained wounded soldiers, who, in jumping from them while burning, were shot in the water. The negro crews were stripped of their clothing, tied to trees, cowhided and left to starve on shore. The boats were all anchored in mid-channel, and burned, after being robbed of valuables. The officers and soldiers were stripped of clothing, placed on shore and paroled.

A tremendous rain storm has set in, and the river has risen over three feet in a few hours.

Several bridges on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad have been destroyed by this band of marauders, and mail communication cannot be resumed for some time.

The wires between this place and Murfreesboro have been cut by Secessionists, who pretend to be quiet Union farmers, and I have no word from our army to-day, but it is ready for the enemy.

Nineteen deserters from various Tennessee regiments came into this city to-day. An entire rebel regiment, numbering about three hundred, deserted, and came into our outpost, fifteen miles beyond Murfreesboro, yesterday.

Ninety thousand dollars of Confederate States' funds were seized from brokers in this city and confiscated yesterday, by order of Gen. Rosecrans.

Gen. Longstreet has arrived at Shelbyville with thirteen brigades from Lee's army, and he has superseded Gen. Bragg in command of the rebel army in Tennessee.

Reliable information has been received from scouts that efforts are being made by the rebels to cut Rosecrans' army off from supplies and retreat, and then crush it.

Gen. Longstreet will attack us, it is said, next week, with his entire force, which is thought to number about 45,000 men.

We shall have stirring times here soon. Gen. Rosecrans is fully prepared for the enemy, but will not move upon him until certain expeditions effect the destruction of a railroad and capture Forrest and his men, or drive them off.

The Chattanooga *Rebel*, of yesterday, reports a large fleet of gunboats and transports ascending the Mississippi River on the 13th inst.

We have nothing but rebel news here and feel gloomy, but hope for the best.

Arrival of Transport Mississippi.

The U. S. steam transport *Mississippi*, Capt. Baxter, arrived at this port last evening, from New-Orleans Jan. 7 and Key West Jan. 13, at 9 A. M., making the passage from the latter port to Sandy Hook in 4 days and 6 hours. She left at Key West the propeller *Prometheus*, coaling; U. S. steamer *Sagamore*, and propeller *Osceola*, coaling.

The California Legislature.

NO CHOICE YET OF A UNITED STATES SENATOR.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Jan. 16.

Four more ballots were cast in the California Legislature this evening for United States Senator, but no choice was made.

The last ballot stood as follows:

Phelps	40	Conness	22
Sargeant	23	Shafter	1

A motion was then made to adjourn until Tuesday, the 20th inst., which was carried, the friends of Mr. Pratt all severing the motion.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

An Inside View of the Affairs of the Rebel Government.

The Correspondence Intercepted by Our Blockaders Off Charleston.

Letters from the Rebel Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, and Secretary of the Navy.

How Money is Raised in England by the Hypothecation of Cotton.

How Iron-Clads are Built for the Rebels.

Our Neutral English Cousins Who Furnish Rebel Supplies.

Exaggeration of the Rebel Successes in Virginia.

DESPONDENCY AT BRAGG'S FAILURE.

From the National Intelligencer.

The subjoined highly interesting and important papers, being the correspondence of the Confederate authorities in Richmond with their diplomatic and financial agents abroad, have been recently intercepted by our Government. Their contents will be found not only curious but very instructive for the "South-side view" they give of the operations, plans and prospects of the "Confederacy."

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CONFEDERATE STATE DEPARTMENT.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. SLIDELL.

[No. 6, *duplicate.*]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Richmond, Sept. 26, 1862.

Hon. John Slidell, &c., &c., &c., Paris:

Sir: Since my No. 5, of the 19th of July, I am without any communication from you, with the exception of your No. 2, of the 26th of February last, which was brought to the Department on the 26th of this month by Mr. Chilmerlyn, to whom you had intrusted it. This gentleman has thus consumed seven months in discharging the trust confided to him.

Your numbers 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 are still missing, and for the memory of the archives of the Department I beg you to forward duplicates of them.

Events of startling importance have been crowded so rapidly into the short period which has elapsed since my last dispatch, that any attempt to give them in detail would swell this communication into a volume. I shall endeavor to send you herewith our files of newspapers, which will furnish details, and confine myself to a statement of the present condition of affairs.

On the 10th July the remnant of McClellan's defeated army was still encamped at Harrison's Landing, on James River, fortified in a very strong position, and protected by a formidable fleet of gunboats. His defeat had been followed by an order of President Lincoln investing Maj.-Gen. Halleck with the command-in-chief of all the armies of the United States, headquarters at Washington. Maj.-Gen. Pope was assigned to the command of the army of the Potomac, which was composed of the shattered remnants of the armies of Fremont, Banks, and Sigel, after their rout by Gen. Jackson in the battles of the Valley, to which were added the several armies of McDowell, who occupied Fredericksburgh (of Russian, who was recalled from North Carolina; and of Hunter and Stevens, who were recalled from South Carolina. This army was also increased by troops withdrawn from Norfolk and Fortress Monroe, and replaced at those points by raw levies. This accumulated force, amounted probably to about ninety thousand effective men, and the cry of "On to Richmond" was renewed with the usual accompaniment of extravagant boasting by the Northern journals.

Gen. Lee first dispatched Gen. Jackson with a corps d'armee of about 25,000 men, to check Pope's advance, and having satisfied himself that a small force would be sufficient to watch McClellan, (whose army was demoralized and disorganized by the result of the battles of the Chickahominy, and was being fast worn down by sickness,) proceeded with the main body of his army as rapidly as possible to join Gen. Jackson; but the movement was not accomplished as speedily as was desirable, in consequence of our deficiency in means of transportation. Gen. Lee had hoped, with his united forces, to crush the army of that general before McClellan could come to its relief, if such a movement were attempted. The plan was on the eve of successful accomplishment when a sudden rain storm so swelled the Rapidan River that it was necessary to delay some time before crossing it, and Pope, in the meantime, taking the alarm, retired rapidly behind the Rappahannock, thus bringing himself within supporting distance of McClellan, who had been ordered round to join him, in accordance with the anticipations of Gen. Lee. The combined forces of McClellan and Pope were, however, met by Gen. Lee in a series of successful battles on the plains of Manassas, on the 26th, 29th and 30th of August, and the total rout of the enemy was followed by the withdrawal of their entire forces into the fortifications around Washington; by the disgrace of Pope, who has been relieved of an insignificant command in Minnesota, and by the appointment of McClellan to the command of *the army collected "for the defence of Washington."* Gen. Lee, amusing the enemy by feigned demonstrations of attack on his lines at Arlington Heights, succeeded in withdrawing his entire army from their front, and entered Maryland by the fords at Edward's Ferry, in the neighborhood of Leesburgh, without opposition, and established his headquarters at Frederick.

Again making deceptive demonstrations of an intention to march, at one time into Pennsylvania and at another against Baltimore, Gen. Lee directed his army in such a manner that by a rapid movement he enveloped the whole Federal force, of over eleven thousand men, stationed at Harper's Ferry, and forced it into an unconditional surrender. The fruits of this movement were, over eleven thousand prisoners, including more than four hundred officers, twelve thousand stands of arms, ninety pieces of artillery, and an enormous quantity of stores, principally munitions of war, together with two hundred wagons, &c. Gen. McClellan, becoming aware too late of his danger, moved from Washington in great haste, with the view to relieve the troops invested at Harper's Ferry, and on the day before their surrender, attacked with his whole force of eighty thousand men, Gen. D. H. Hill, who, with a rear guard of fifteen thousand men, had been left to resist his advance, and who held his position with unconquerable firmness, but was finally compelled to give way for a short distance, under the stress of these overwhelming odds, until Gens. Lee and Longstreet, arriving with reinforcements, redistributed his lines, and repulsed the enemy. The rapid arrival of reinforcements for Gen. McClellan induced Gen. Lee to withdraw his troops to Sharpsburgh, for the purpose of effecting a junction with the corps of Gens. Jackson and A. P. Hill, who had not yet returned from the capture of Harper's Ferry. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 16th and 17th instant, Gen. McClellan, with his entire army, amounting probably to one hundred and fifty thousand men, attacked Gen. Lee with great fury, while the latter was still separated from the corps of Jackson and Hill, and had not more than forty thousand men to meet the assault. Incredible as it may appear, our unconquerable soldiers met the shock with unyielding firmness, fought with desperation, although terribly outflanked on both wings, and, slowly retiring, maintained an unbroken front, until the arrival of Jackson at noon, followed by that of A. P. Hill at 4 P. M., enabled them to turn the tide, to drive back the advancing columns of the enemy, and to regain their first position, when the approach of night put an end to the most desperate conflict of the war, each party sleeping on its arms in the respective positions occupied by them when the battle began. Gen. Lee prepared to renew the conflict next morning, but the enemy had disappeared under the front, and left his master of the field.

After occupying the day in providing for the wounded and the burial of the dead, Gen. Lee withdrew his army across the river to Shepherdstown, and so rapidly was this fact known, that Gen. McClellan claimed a victory, and was accepted by the frantic exultation of the Northern papers into what he called a pursuit of a flying foe. His temerity was severely punished. On the 31st instant a division of his army, in attempting to cross the river, was decoyed by a feigned retreat of Jackson, and fell into a trap from which escape was impossible, and was cut to pieces with appalling slaughter. The river was choked with their dead, who fell by thousands; and out of one regiment of about fifteen hundred men who crossed the passage, but about one hundred and fifty are believed to have escaped. Gen. Lee, of the Confederate, was about to return from Maryland to Virginia, and has probably already established his headquarters at that point.

Gen. Loring, in Western Virginia, has just concluded a perfectly successful campaign (with the aid of Gen. Jackson,) by which the enemy, after being beaten in a series of battles, with heavy loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, had retreated in their flight to the lower waters of the Kanawha, and the remnant of their forces is pressing by the shore on the other side of the Ohio river, thus leaving Western Virginia partially free from any other hostile force than some small parties in the extreme Northwest, in the neighborhood of Wheeling.

Signal triumphs have illustrated our arms in the Valley of the Mississippi. My last dispatch announced that Gen. Bragg had commenced a movement which was expected to liberate Tennessee from the presence of the invaders. After a long and unexcelled march of over 400 miles, he encountered, uninterrupted by the enemy, from Tupelo, in Mississippi, to Chattanooga, in Tennessee. Cavalry expeditions, under the daring leadership of Col. Morgan and Gen. Forrest, were dispatched into Kentucky and Tennessee, which attacked the enemy at their disposal encampments and depots of supplies. Their communications were intercepted, railroad bridges burned, tunnels destroyed, camps captured, and several thousands of their troops made prisoners. The enemy's army at Cumberland Gap, about 16,000 strong, was closely invested, its supplies cut off, and they were forced to abandon their position in the night, and are now fleeing through Kentucky, being pursued by our forces under Gen. Carter Stevenson, who is capturing their straggling bands as fast as he can reach them. This army of the enemy may be considered as nearly annihilated. Major-Gen. Kirby Smith, in the meantime, advanced rapidly into Kentucky, reached Richmond, defeated and utterly routed an army of 10,000 men, under Gen. Nelson, on the 30th of August, (the very day of Gen. Lee's grand victory at Manassas,) the enemy's army was completely dispersed, and more than two or three thousand fugitives escaping from the battle-field. The whole of the arms taken in this battle were used to arm the Kentuckians who are joining us in mass, and no doubt is entertained that that great State is at last permanently joined to our Confederacy. Gen. Bragg advanced into Kentucky by another line, and, leaving Nashville and Bowling Green to Mc. Left, arrived at Munfordville, where he forced a body of 4,000 men to a surrender, thus providing arms for further reinforcements of Kentuckians. These operations, by causing of Gen. Buell from his base, have forced the officer to evacuate Nashville, and thus not only is the whole state of Tennessee restored to our possession, with the exception of a small district around Memphis, but the seat of war has been removed from the line of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad to the banks of the Ohio. We are in daily expectation of the news of the capture of Louisville.

The contrast between our present condition and that which existed ninety days ago seems almost magical. Instead of having the invader in the heart of our country, with our capital closely invested by an arrogant and confident foe, our entire frontier, from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, with a few insignificant exceptions, is reposing in peace behind the protection of our victorious forces. The cry of "On to Richmond" and of "waning prestige of the rebellion" is changed into a direct and earnest demand for protection, arising from Ohio and Pennsylvania, and letter and confession reign in Cincinnati, and Harrisburgh, and Philadelphia. No greater or more startling proof of the change of spirit at the North can be possessed than is shown in the official dispatch of Gen. McClellan, in which, after falsely claiming a victory on the 17th instant, he actually felicitates his Government that "Pennsylvania is safe!" The newspapers of New-York, too, are demanding the removal of the seat of the United States to that City, on the ground that it is exposed to capture in Philadelphia!

Herewith you will receive the President's message and accompanying documents, including the measures taken for the repression of the enormities threatened by the enemy, under the command of Gen. Pope. I am gratified to inform you that some seventy of Gen. Pope's officers, including Gen. Pierce, were captured by Gen. Jackson, at the battle of Cedar Run, soon after the issue of the President's retaliatory order, and were excepted out of the exchange of prisoners of war and held in close custody. This wholesome severity produced the desired effect, and no official assurances received from the enemy that Gen. Pope's order was no longer in force, and that he had been removed from his command, the captured officers were paroled for exchange. As I have observed that in some of the English journals the facts have been strangely perverted and the action of the President censured as wanting in humanity, it is desirable that some proper means be adopted by you for giving publicity to the facts. The confinement of officers, in defiance of the threat of great rigor, was the same as that of all the other prisoners of war, and no other severity was exercised toward them than a refusal to parole them for exchange till Pope's murderous orders were set aside.

It may not be improper to call your attention, for such use as may occur, to the enormous losses suffered by the enemy during the present campaign, and to which history furnishes no parallel except the disastrous retreat of Napoleon. I give you the following estimate, which, without any pretension to exact accuracy, is reduced much below what is believed to be the real state of the case, from sources of information derived mainly from the enemy's own confessions. The list includes not only the killed, wounded and prisoners, but the losses of the enemy by sickness (which was truly terrible) and desertion:

1st. McClellan lost	100,000
He landed on the Peninsula with nearly 100,000 men, was afterward reinforced to 158,000, and left with a remnant of about 35,000 men.	
2d. Pope's army in the battles of Cedar Run and of Manassas Plains	30,000
3d. The armies of Banks, Milroy, McDowell, Sigel, and Fremont, in the battles of the Valley of Virginia	30,000
4th. Halleck's army in the West, originally 220,000, was reduced, by battles, at Shiloh and elsewhere, by sickness and desertion, to less than 100,000 men, but let the loss be stated at only	100,000
5th. On the coasts of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana, principally by sickness and desertion, at least	10,000
6th. In North and Southwestern Virginia	5,000
7th. In the battle of Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg	15,000
8th. In the surrender of Harper's Ferry	11,000
9th. In the battle of Rotcher's Mills	2,000
10th. In the army of Gen. Morgan, at Cumberland Gap	9,000
11th. In the battle of Richmond, Kentucky	7,000
12th. In the surrender at Munfordville	5,000
13th. In the campaigns of Morgan and Forrest, and other partisan leaders in Kentucky and Tennessee	4,000
14th. In the trans-Mississippi campaigns, including partisan warfare in Missouri and Arkansas	25,000
Total	349,500

In this enormous number I am not now able to state what General Officers were included, but in the single battle of Sharpsburgh, of 16th and 17th instant, eleven Generals of the enemy were killed or wounded, among them four Major Generals.

I transmit you, for information, copy of a dispatch sent to Mr. Mann on the subject of a convention between the United States and the King of Denmark, relative to Africans captured from slavers at sea. It may be well to have an eye to the movements of the enemy in the disposal of slaves captured from our people, and you will perceive, by the instructions to Mr. Mann, what are the President's views on this interesting matter.

I received, on the 29th July, the *duplicate* of a letter of Mr. Rost, resigning his office, and informing the Department that he was about to leave Madrid, and had confided the books and papers of the legation for safe keeping to Mr. Bates, the agent and partner of the Rothschilds, in Madrid. This letter is dated on the 28th May, and as nothing is said, in it in relation to Mr. Walker Fearn, the Secretary of Legation, I infer that the *original* was accompanied by a letter of resignation from Mr. Fearn also, but no such letter has reached the Department. You are requested to ascertain whether Mr. Fearn has resigned, and if, contrary to the inference drawn from Judge Rost's letter, he has not done so, the President desires that you intimate to him, in the manner best adapted to avoid wounding his feelings, that the departure of Mr. Rost, under the circumstances, and his closing up of the legation at Madrid, have put an end to Mr. Fearn's functions as Secretary to Madrid, and that his office has thus been vacated.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. MANN.

[No. 4.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Richmond, Aug. 14, 1862.

Hon. A. Dudley Mann, &c., &c., Brussels:

Sir: We are informed that an arrangement has been recently consummated between the Government of the United States and that of Denmark, for transferring to the Danish colonies of the West Indies Africans who may be captured from slavers, and brought into the United States. We are not informed of the precise terms of this agreement and can, of course, have no objection to offer to the detention, in the Danish colonies, of persons above designated, (such as after condemnation as slaves, and released by the United States,) who, in default of means for their transportation to their homes, would be left on the Slave-trade, or transition of slaves and vagrants.

It has, however, been suggested to the President that under cover of this agreement the United States may impose upon the good faith of the Government of Denmark, and make it the unwilling and unwarranted instrument in the war now waged against us. The agent of the United States, for which country is engaged in suppressing the traffic, is a citizen of a country now engaged in what, and we speak a notorious truth, is, as you are aware, the entire property of all the citizens of the Confederacy. The same law declares substantially the emancipation of all our slaves, and an executive order of President Lincoln directs the commissioners of his armies to employ them as laborers in the military service. It is well, however, that notwithstanding the restrictive terms of this order, several of his Generals openly employ the slaves to bear arms against us, and have thus instituted, as far as lies in their power, a servile war of a most serious character, and have a shocking example within the memory of many now living. The perfidy, vindictiveness and savage cruelty with which this war is waged against us, have had but few parallels in the annals of nations.

The Government of the United States, however, has been frequently arrested in the execution of its schemes by the difficulty in disposing of the slaves seized by its troops and subjected to confiscation by its barbarous laws. The prejudice against the negro race is in the Northern States so intense, and deep-rooted that the migration of our slaves into those States would meet with vehement opposition both from their people and local authorities. Already riots are becoming rife in the Northern cities, arising out of conflicts and rivalries between their white laboring population and the slaves who have been driven from Virginia by the army of the United States. Yet these slaves are an integral portion of the labor population of the South. It is not the purpose of the single obstacle presented by the difficulty of disposing of slaves seized for confiscation to of itself sufficient to check in a very great degree the execution of the barbarous policy inaugurated by our enemies.

The repeated instances of shameless perfidy exhibited by the Government of the United States, during the prosecution of the war, justify us in the supposition that said Government, by every act on their part, having a bearing, however remote, on the hostilities now pending. When, therefore, the President received at the same time information of two important facts—one, that the United States were suffering grave embarrassment from the presence within their limits of the slaves seized from our citizens; the other, that the United States had agreed to transfer to Denmark, for transportation to the Danish West Indies, all Africans captured at sea from slave-traders—he felt that there was just reason to suspect an intimate connection between these facts, and that the purpose of our treacherous enemy was to abuse the good faith of a neutral and friendly Power by palming off our own slaves seized for confiscation by the enemy as Africans rescued at sea from slave-traders.

You are specially instructed to observe that the President entertains no apprehension that the Government of Denmark would for one moment swerve from the observance of strict neutality in the war now raging on this continent; still, he feels it incumbent faithfully to reject any proposals, however remote, in the system of confiscation, robbery and murder which the United States have recently adopted under the sting of defeat in their unjust attempt to subjugate a free people. His only fear is that the Cabinet of Copenhagen may (as has happened to ourselves) fail to suspect in others a perfidy of which themselves are incapable. His only purpose in instructing you, as he now does, to communicate the contents of this dispatch to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, (and, if deemed advisable, to furnish a copy of it,) is to convey the information which has given rise to the suspicions entertained here. The President hopes thus to prevent the possibility of success in any attempt that may be made to deceive the servants of His Danish Majesty by delivering to them for conveyance to the West Indies slaves seized for confiscation by the enemy, instead of Africans rescued on the high seas.

You are requested to proceed to Copenhagen by the earliest practical conveyance, and execute the Presidents instructions on this subject without unnecessary delay. I am, &c.,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. SLIDELL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Richmond, Oct. 17, 1862.

[No. 7.]

Sir: Since my No. 6, of 26th ultimo, of which duplicate is here with forwarded, some occurrences of a very remarkable character have come to the knowledge of the President, to which, your earnest attention is invited.

On the 7th instant the President received from Gov. Lubbock, of Texas, a letter, of which a copy is herewith marked A, with inclosures B and C.

The singular nature of the correspondence initiated, as you will perceive, by Mr. B. Espalier, French Consular Agent, and Spanish Vice-Consul of Galveston, naturally excited a lively interest, but we had not yet arrived at any satisfactory conclusion as to the nature and extent, nor the source of the intrigue on foot, when, on the 12th instant, the President received from Hon. W. S. Oldham, Senator from Texas, a letter, of which a copy, marked D, is herewith inclosed.

The concurrent action of two French Consuls, at points so remote from each other as Galveston and Richmond; the evident understanding which exists between them; the similarity of their views and conduct; the choice of Mr. Oldham as the party to be approached, he being originally considered as identified with the party opposed to the Administration, while Mr. Westall is its supporter; all concur in satisfying us that there is not only concert of action between these officials, but that their conduct has been dictated by some common superior. In plain language, we feel authorized to infer that the French Government has, for some interest of its own, instructed some of its consuls in Texas here to do its way, and if possible to provoke some movement on the part of the State of Texas which shall result in its withdrawal from the Confederacy. It is difficult, if not impossible, on any other hypothesis, to account for the conduct of these agents.

I have, in accordance with the instructions of the *President, expelled both M. Tranoy and M. Tarennes from the Confederacy, and have forbidden their return* without the previous permission of the Government. I inclose you copies of the orders of expulsion, marked C and D.

Independently of any account for such a course of action on the part of the French Government, I can only attribute it to one or both of the following causes:

1. The Emperor of the French has determined to conquer and hold Mexico as a colony, and to do efforts of intriguing a weak power, between his new colony and the Confederate States, in order that he may feel secure against any interference with his designs on Mexico.

2. The French Government is desirous of securing for itself an independent source of cotton supply, to offset that possessed by Great Britain in India, and designs to effect this purpose by taking under its protection the State of Texas, which, after being acknowledged as an independent Republic, would, in its opinion, be in effect its dependent on France, and its subservient to French interests as if a French colony.

It is more than probable that both these considerations would have weight in the counsels of the French Cabinet, and we are not without suspicion that the vertuous diplomacy of Mr. Seward may have had some influence in inducing such designs. The desire to weaken the Confederacy, to exhibit it to the world as "a rope of sand," without consistence or coherence, and therefore not worthy of recognition as an independent member of the family of nations, would afford ample motives for the adoption of such a course by the Cabinet of the United States, which is driven to a diplomacy at expectation in the desperate effort to avert the impending doom which awaits the party now in power in Washington.

One other suggestion occurs to me, which you may receive as purely

MR. RUSSELL IN AMERICA.

His Views on American Celebrities and American Society Generally.

Notes of Hand in the North and South

From the London Times, Dec. 26.

THE DISTINGUISHED AUTHOR'S VISIT TO THE SLAVE AND THE LOYAL STATES.

The publication of Mr. RUSSELL's diary of his sojourn in the United States is more of a novelty than the readers of his letters to this journal might anticipate. During the whole time he was in the United States as our special correspondent he kept a series of diaries and note-books in which he recorded the events and impressions of the hour, and certain criticisms of men and things subordinate to the broad inferences which it was our function to publish. That portion of his diaries which he now edits is confirmatory of the views he expressed in this paper, but it is not the same in its method or its details. It is an original work, but desultory as diaries necessarily are. We have here Mr. RUSSELL's sketch-book, with the lighter tracings of his observations and a freer exhibition of his personal experiences.

HIS VOYAGE TO AMERICA.

Mr. RUSSELL left Cork on the 3d of March, 1861, and in the *Arabia*, which carried him, there were representatives of both parties, who talked not apart, nor apart, talked apart, and in divers ways impressed Mr. RUSSELL with a sense of their definite antagonism. Public attention was then concentrated on the two forts, Pickens and Sumter, which were garrisoned by Federal forces in Confederate soil, and the Government of the Union appeared to be paralyzed, without any tendency on the part of the North to sustain it by energetic action. The New-Yorker was nevertheless complacent. "I suppose, Sir," he said to Mr. RUSSELL, "you are rather surprised, coming from Europe, to find us so quiet here in New-York; we are a peculiar people, and you don't understand us in Europe." Mr. BANCROFT, who was one of the first persons on whom Mr. RUSSELL called, was "unable to arrive at any settled conclusion," he was up a tree, like the rest of his countrymen of lower pretensions. Mr. HORATIO SEYMOUR then appears to have expressed much the same opinions as those of which Mr. SEYMOUR is the official exponent now. Mr. HORACE GREELEY expressed great pleasure at hearing that Mr. RUSSELL was about to visit the South, because he would be able to learn the truth about Slavery, which was not one of the privileges of a Northern Abolitionist. The New-York papers were indulging in much personal abuse and ridicule of the great rail-splitter, or of Mr. GREELEY's old coat, hat, breeches and umbrella. Great Britain was, of course, treated with that contempt and injustice which seems its inevitable portion at the hands of American politicians. As regards the blockade, it was taken for granted that Great Britain would act only on sordid motives, but that the well-known affection of France for the United States was to check the selfishness of her rival, and prevent a speedy recognition." Thus opinion as regards England was in its normal state of ignorance encouraged by self-conceit and embittered by ill-will.

TO WASHINGTON.

Mr. RUSSELL did not linger long in New-York, but made his way to Washington, where he found himself in the throng of expectant office-seekers who were seeking their reward in the bosom of Uncle ABE. Not less than 2,500 persons were dining daily at Willard's Hotel, and the aggregate of their consumption may be imagined when Mr. RUSSELL hears the following breakfast ordered by one of them: "Black tea and toast, scrambled eggs, fresh Spring shad, wild pigeon, pig's feet, *hoe roten an toate*, oysters," and a quantity of breads and cakes of various denominations.

MR. SEWARD.

Mr. RUSSELL soon made the acquaintance of Mr. SEWARD, whose "tone was that of a man very sanguine, and with a supreme contempt for those who thought there was anything serious in secession." "Why," said he, "I myself, my brothers and sisters, have all been Secessionists—we decided from home when we were very young, but we all went back to it sooner or later. These States will all come back in the same way." Mr. SEWARD undertook to introduce our correspondent to the President, whose personal appearance at the White House is thus vividly depicted:

"Soon afterward there entered, with a shambling, heavy frequent, almost unwieldy gait, a tall, bony man, considerably over six feet in height, with stooping shoulders, long productive arms, terminating in hands of extraordinary dimensions, which, Nature, or the mood in which he was when he MADE HIM, THEN DESIGNED IT, IN ALL-SITTING, wished out of black, which put one in mind of an undertaker's uniform at a funeral; round his neck a rope of black silk was knotted in a large bulk, with flying ends projecting beyond the collar of his coat; his turned-down shirt-collar disclosed a skinny muscular yellow neck, and there that, nestling in a gross black mass of hair, fretting and cumbrous, like a ruff of mourning pine, rose the strange quaint face and head, covered with its thatch of wild Republican hair of Northern Europe. The impression produced by the rise of his extremities, and by his flapping and wide-projecting ears, may be removed by the appearance of kindness, sagacity, and the awkward benhomie of his face; the mouth is absolutely prodigious; the lips, stretching and extending almost from one line of black beard to the other, are only kept in order by two deep furrows from the nostril to the chin; the nose itself—a prominent organ—stands out from the rest with an inquiring curious air, as if it were sniffing for new good things in the wind; the eyes dark, full, and deeply set, are penetrating, but full of an expression which almost amounts to tenderness; and above them projects the shaggy brow, running into the small hard frontal space, the development of which can scarcely be estimated accurately, owing to the irregular flocks of thick hair carelessly brushed across it. One would say that, although the mouth was made to enjoy a joke, himself also utter the severest sentence which the head could dictate, but that Mr. LINCOLN would be even more willing to pardon the offender, and to enjoy what he considered the absurdities of life, than to take a harsh view of man's nature and of the world, and to estimate things in an ascetic or puritan spirit. A person who met Mr. LINCOLN in the street would not take him to be what, according to the notions of European society, is called a 'gentleman;' and, indeed, since I came to the United States I have heard some disparaging allusions made by Americans to him on that account than I could have expected to hear in a country where all men are held to be equal; but, at the same time, it would not be possible for the most indifferent observer to pass him in the street without notice."

THE OTHER DIGNITARIES.

Mr. LINCOLN received Mr. RUSSELL very cordially, and remarked that "The London Times is one of the greatest powers in the world; in fact, I don't know anything which has more power, except, perhaps, the Mississippi. I am glad to know you as its minister." Mr. LINCOLN further impressed Mr. RUSSELL agreeably with his shrewdness, humor and sagacity. Mr. SEWARD, when he entertained Mr. RUSSELL at dinner the same day, spoke in high terms also of the ability, dexterity, and personal qualifications of Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS, and declared his belief that but for him the secession movement never could have succeeded so far as it had gone, and would in all probability never have taken place at all. On the following day Mr. RUSSELL dined with the President, where he was first of all struck by Mr. CHASE, the parent of the greenbacks, who was one of the most intelligent and distinguished persons in the whole assemblage. The President himself was particularly entertaining, abounding in those homely anecdotes which are part of his diplomatic stock, and by which he escapes the necessity of pursuing an unwelcome argument. Some young lady suggested to Mr. RUSSELL, with that ignorance of English sentiment which seems to be the predominant characteristic of the self-complacent Yankee, that of course he could not admire a certain officer present, because he had fought so gallantly against the British in the last war. Our correspondent was really ignorant of the exploits of the officer in question, and, as he says, he quotes the incident only in proof of the prevailing delusion that we entertain the same kind of feeling in reference to our reverses at New-Orleans and elsewhere that is attributed to Frenchmen respecting Waterloo.

LIBERAL [illegible]

It was Mr. RUSSELL's experience that liberal culture and extensive information did not exist very little in American circles. "Such men," he says, speaking of [illegible] "never do or can succeed in the United States; they are far too refined, philosophical and cosmopolitan. From what I see, success here may be obtained by refined tact, if they are dishonest—never by philosophical men unless they be corrupt; not by cosmopolitan men under any circumstances whatever, for to have sympathies with any people, or with any nation in the world except his own, is to deem a statement with the American public, unless it be in the form of an affectation of pity or good will, intended really as an offence to some allied people." On the other hand, the universal anxiety for office was the leading phenomenon observed by Mr. RUSSELL during his stay at Washington. Miss CHASE told him now the aspirants assailed her for her interest with her papa. He himself saw one of them submitting to the barber, and jumping up with his face half-lathered to pursue a passing Senator. Four-fifths of the people at Willard's were engaged in this official chase. Some of them had come thousands of miles to seek for places which can only be theirs for four years, and with true American facility they had abandoned the calling and pursuits of a lifetime for this doubtful canvass. He heard of one gentleman, who having been informed that he could not get a judgship, consented to seek a place in the Post Office, and finally applied to Mr. CHASE to be appointed keeper of a lighthouse.

CAPT. DAHLGREN—THE SECESSIONIST COMMISSIONER.

In the Washington Navy-Yard Mr. RUSSELL had the advantage of a colloquy with Captain DAHLGREN, who contrived to show him much good practice with shrapnel, and to fire so rapidly as to keep three shells in the air at the same time. Mr. RUSSELL had further interviews with Mr. LINCOLN, Lord LYONS, Senators SUMNER and DOUGLAS, Mr. GLADSTONE, and the Southern Commissioners then at Washington. Mr. SEWARD deplored to him the helpless condition in which the Government had found themselves on their accession to office, and especially deprecated a recognition of the Southern States by Great Britain, pending the forced inaction previous to the coup which was intended to reduce them to submission. The Southern Commissioners, on the other hand, expressed to Mr. RUSSELL their peculiar distrust of Mr. SEWARD and their more comprehensive contempt for Northern men and Northern principles. At a private interview at which Mr. SEWARD showed Mr. RUSSELL the draught of the letter which Mr. ADAMS was to read to Lord JOHN RUSSELL in London, he expressed his conviction that "Secession will be done and over in three months."

A DINNER WITH GEN. SCOTT.

A dinner at the veteran Gen. SCOTT's was particularly interesting to Mr. RUSSELL, for the General entertained him with some of his experiences in the war with the Britishers. He recounted how, when he was a Corporal of a troop of patrols on the Potomac, he captured a boat and boat's crew of Her Majesty's ship *Leopard*, who were too near the bank—which is perhaps the first instance of a man-of-war's boat being captured by cavalry—and how the midshipman then in command, who was Capt. FOX, subsequently recognized him at a dinner-party at Lord HOLLAND's. When a dispatch arrived from the President, and Mr. RUSSELL discreetly retired for a cigar in the garden, to give the General an opportunity of discussing it with Mr. SEWARD, he observed a couple of men, as it were in concealment, who, Maj. CURLEW informed him, had been placed there to protect the General from *assassination*. At that time, there was little protection for Washington or the President himself in case the Southerners had attempted a *coup de main*.

CUT FOR THE SOUTH.

At the same time, as there were rumors of something decisive as regarded Fort Sumter, Mr. RUSSELL decided to go southward, and on his arrival at Baltimore, he learnt that the Confederates had opened fire upon the Federal fortress. At Baltimore he found "the whole feeling of the landed and respectable classes with the South." At Norfolk there was great jubilation over the fall of Sumter. At Wilmington he nearly received a visit from the Vigilance Committee, to inform him of their sentiments or ascertain his. But wherever he passed there was no sign of that "affection for the Union" on which Mr. SEWARD snowedly counted. At Charleston, where Gen. BEAUREGARD received Mr. RUSSELL cordially, there was, in fact, a great deal of redomontade uttered at the expense of the obnoxious Yankees. It was the universal impression also that Cotton was King, and that John Bull must do his bidding, and interfere for the South. "He will make a great fuss about non-interference at first, but when he begins to want cotton he'll come off his perch." "I found," says Mr. RUSSELL, "this was the fixed idea everywhere." And such fixed ideas, whether Northern or Southern, were generally as far from the substantial truth as the event has proved them to have been in this particular instance.

FORT SUMTER.

Mr. RUSSELL went over Fort Sumter after the shelling without being much impressed with the effectiveness of its bombardment. He was soon hearing of the enrancing demonstration at New-York on the news of the fall of Fort Sumter, and the astonishment and disgust with which his Southern friends received it. Again and again he heard that Cotton was King. "Why, Sir, we have only to shut off your supply of cotton for a few weeks and we can create a revolution in Great Britain," &c. He heard, moreover, that climax of Southern resentment so distasteful to a New-Englander, especially of the Boston sect, that they would prefer a return to British rule to any reunion with the descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers. The Carolinians really did pride themselves on their supposed descent from the Cavaliers, and were anxious in sober earnest for the rule of a British Prince. Mr. RUSSELL even beheld at Charleston volunteer cavalry in gray tunics slashed and faced with yellow, buff belts, slouched felt hats ornamented with drooping cocks' plumes, and long jack boots, which well became their fine persons and bold bearing, and were equally due to "Cavalier" associations. He was much pleased, moreover, with a certain Mr. PRIGGS, a witty, pleasant old gentleman, who stood up for the Union, and who was rather petted by his compatriots as a prize specimen of their own forbearance. Mr. RUSSELL also mentions gratefully the attention of Mr. TRESCOTT, author of the *History of Diplomacy*, under whose auspices he received much hospitality from the Southern gentry.

COMMODORE TATNALL.

Commodore TATNALL, whom Mr. RUSSELL met at Savannah, and whose few words at the Pelho have had such a singular international currency, greatly interested Mr. RUSSELL, as, indeed, he appears to be looked up to with a sort of Celtic attachment by his own especial neighbors. The old gentleman calmly admitted that his bones would be white in his grave before the Southern Confederacy would have a fleet capable of coping with the Stars and Stripes. Mr. RUSSELL observed that the Germans and Irish, here as elsewhere in the South, were to a man in favor of the Southern Confederacy, as in the North these important patriots are unanimously the reverse. The Southern clergy appear equally of the opinion of their province, inasmuch as they advocate Slavery upon strictly Scriptural grounds, while the Northerners on Scriptural grounds insist on its abolition. The earnestness of the South was best exemplified by the landlord at a country inn at which Mr. RUSSELL dined, and who declined payment in gold with disgust, having an intense preference for Confederate notes. We have seen no such proof yet of the earnestness of the North, and we can anticipate any resolution from men who are thus indifferent even to the charms of the convertible dollar.

TO MONTGOMERY—BEAUREGARD.

While Mr. RUSSELL was on his way to Montgomery Gen. BEAUREGARD got into the car and tried to elude observation, but the conductors take great pleasure in unearthing distinguished passengers for the public, and the General was called upon for a speech by a crowd of idlers. The General hates making speeches, so Gov. MANNING made one for him, until he was carried off from the cheers of his auditors by the train in the midst of an unfinished sentence. Such are the obligations of public life in either group of the States. At Montgomery Mr. RUSSELL saw several of the Knights of the Golden Circle, an association for securing the Gulf Provinces and States, and including them in the Southern Confederacy, of which, though its operations are suspended for the present, we shall probably hear more hereafter. He also saw at Montgomery the Legislative Assembly listening to a sermon, "such as a Bishop of Burley might preach to his Government officers—resolute [illegible] and large frames—such men as [illegible] have to inspire them. * * * a faith which is above all reason or logical attack, in the supremacy, righteousness and divinity of Slavery." All the speaking Mr. RUSSELL saw was with admiration of JEFF. DAVIS, with whom the writer's first interview was particularly interesting. In answer to the expression of Mr. RUSSELL's surprise at the universality of the warlike preparations around him, Mr. DAVIS contended that the Americans were by natural predilection a military people; that the profusion of military titles was one indication of this, and another that gentlemen there go to a military academy who do not intend to follow the profession of arms. Mr. DAVIS' bearing to our correspondent was most courteous and considerate. Mr BROWNE and the Attorney-General even desired his opinion as to the form in which letters-of-marque and reprisal should be made out, as to which they were in some perplexity for the want of book precedents. As regards the entire situation, there was the same vagueness of intention as Mr. RUSSELL had previously observed in the North. Neither party was prepared for the aggressive or resisting power of the other, and neither foresaw the extent of the sacrifices which have since been exacted from it. In the North, they were scarcely conscious of their own changes of opinion from day to day, and they were amusing Mr. RUSSELL for describing the apathy of New-York, when New-York had only woke with a start just as Fort Sumter had fallen.

NO UNION SENTIMENT.

From Montgomery Mr. RUSSELL went to Mobile, but nowhere did he find any Union sentiment. Even Gen. SCOTT, who was a short time previously written of in the usual inflated style to which respectable military mediocrity and success are entitled in the States, was now reviled by the Southern papers as an infamous Roman traitor and the like. "Even here," says Mr. RUSSELL, speaking of Forts Gaines and Morgan, which he visited, "there is a parvet soreness at the small effect produced in England compared with what they anticipated by the attack on Sumter." We were expected to throw up our caps in admiration at every demonstration on either side.

HON. JOHN FORSYTH UNREASONABLE.

At Mobile our correspondent was invited to take upon him a responsibility which he declined with unquestionable judgment and propriety.

"Mr. FORSYTH asked if I had any objection to take with me three gentlemen of Mobile, who were anxious to be of the party, as they wanted to see their friends at Pensacola, where it was believed a 'fight' was to come off immediately. Since I came South I have seen the daily announcement that 'BRAGG'S brigade is ready,' and his present state of preparation must be beyond all question, so I told Mr. FORSYTH that I would not be doing a delicacy. I told Mr. FORSYTH that I would not be doing amount to any persons coming with me who were not neutrals, or prepared to adhere to the obligations of neutrals. There was a suggestion that I should say these gentlemen were my friends, but as I had only seen two of them on board the steamer yesterday, I could not accede to that idea. 'Then if you are asked if Mr. RAVENEL is your friend, you will say he is not?' 'Certainly.' 'But surely you don't wish to have Mr. RAVENEL hanged?' 'No, I do not, and I shall do nothing to cause him to be hanged; but if he meets that fate it is his own act I can't help it. I will allow him to accompany me under false pretences. At least it is more than Mr. RAVENEL or his friends, Mr. RAVENEL and Mr. LYONS, being in no way employed by or connected with the Confederate Government, should have a place in the little schooner which we had picked out at the quay-side and hired for the occasion, and go on the voyage with the plain understanding that they were to accept all the consequences of being citizens of Mobile."

SLIDELL VS. TREUBLOW WEED.

Mr. RUSSELL next visited Pensacola, had an interview with Gen. BRAGG, discovered an old Crimean acquaintance, a relic of the Balaklava charge, inspected Fort Pickens and the opposition camp, had an exciting cruise and "a narrow squeak" off Mobile, and then made his way to New-Orleans. Here, of course, he heard of the ancient repulse of the Britishers, with the variation that there were scarcely any cotton bales used in defence of the American trenches. He also made here the acquaintance of Mr. SLIDELL, with whose astuteness he was much impressed, regarding Mr. SLIDELL as a superior TREUBLOW WEED.

NEW-ORLEANS.

New-Orleans was even then in a modified state of terrorism, on account of the suspected presence of Abolitionist partisans. "The moral mercies of the lasso, of tarring and feathering, head shaving, ducking and horse-pondo, deportation on rails, and similar ethical processes, were highly in favor." Fires were also frequent there, and, though Mr. RUSSELL suggested bad luck, a mysterious acquaintance whispered in a low voice, "Slaves."

"When I was at the Committee, to-day, a tall and well-dressed but not prepossessing looking man, entered to speak to Mr. HYNES on business, and was introduced to me at his own request. His name was mentioned instantaneously to night, and I heard a passage in his life not of an agreeable character, to say the least of it. A good many years ago there was a ball at New-Orleans, at which this gentleman was present; he paid particular attention to a lady, who, however, preferred the society of one of the company, and in the course of the evening an altercation occurred in which some language was used, and a push or blow given by the favored partner to his rival, who left the room, and, as it is stated, proceeded to a butcher's shop, where he procured a powerful dagger-knife. Armed with this, he returned, and sent in a message to the gentleman with whom he had quarrelled. Expecting nothing, the latter came into the ante-room, where the parties soon found upon blood stained [illegible] was to the knife, and left him weltering in his blood. Another version of the story was that he waited for his victim till he came into the cloakroom, and struck him as he was in the act of putting on his overcoat. After a long delay the criminal was tried. The defence put forward on his behalf was that he had acted a little in the heat of the moment when the quarrel took place, and had slain his adversary in a moment of passion; but evidence was adduced strongly to prove that a considerable interval elapsed between the time of the dispute and the commission of the murder. The prisoner had the assistance of able and ingenious counsel; he was acquitted. His acquittal was mainly due to the judicious disposition of a large sum of money; each juror, when he retired to dinner previous to consulting over his verdict, was enabled to find the sum of $1,000 under the plate; nor was it clear that the Judge and Jury had not participated in the bounty to boot, I heard subsequently the exact amount which, it is supposed, the murderer had to pay. He now occupies, under the Confederate Government, the post at New-Orleans which he lately held as representative of the Government of the United States."

RUFFIANISM.

Mr. RUSSELL heard much besides of the insecurity of life in New-Orleans in ordinary times, and in the prisons there, which he visited, some examples of notable ruffianism were recommended to his notice. The prison was a scene of horror evidently far worse than anything we can show in this country of well-combed convicts and petted garroters. Mr. RUSSELL heard also of many cases in which British subjects had been carried off to fill the ranks of the so-called volunteers, and our Consul had had enough to do in such cases, but for the want of funds at his disposal, he was unable to succor all the applicants for his aid. It was remarkable that in New-Orleans, as in New-York, the opinion of the most wealthy and intelligent men in the community, as far as Mr. RUSSELL could judge, regarded universal suffrage as organized conflagration, localized violence and corruption—a mortal disease in the body politic. As he sat in the Club house he heard a discussion in reference to the operations of the Thugs there, a band of native-born Americans, who, at election times, were wont deliberately to shoot down Irish and German voters occupying positions as leaders of mobs. These Thugs were only suppressed by an armed Vigilance Committee, of which a physician who sat at table, was one of the members. Mr. RUSSELL expresses himself strongly but appropriately on the subject of our submission to the lawlessness of the South in imprisoning British subjects of color. The Americans, he says, are thus encouraged to indulge in an insolent tone and violent acts toward us, which will some day leave us no alternative but an appeal to arms.

SLAVES ON THE SUGAR PLANTATIONS.

In the neighborhood of New-Orleans Mr. RUSSELL describes the processes on a sugar plantation, the large estates of Governor ROMAN, the inexhaustible capabilities of Louisiana land, and the unexpected silence which broods over hut, field and river. In the midst of this waste of plenty and wealth, where, says he, are the human beings who produce both? "One must go far to discover them; they are buried in sugar and in maize, or hidden in negro quarters. In truth, there is no trace of them over all this expanse of land, unless one knows where to seek; no plowboy whistles o'er the lea, no rustic stands to do his own work, but the gang is moved off in silence from point to point, like a corps d'armée of some despotic Emperor maneuvring on the battle-field." The negro is very liable to disease, and it may be doubted whether he is really such a subject of toiling [illegible] superior race is healthy which [illegible] people of every country to which he is [illegible] or [illegible] in the power of [illegible] labor at which [illegible] which cannot be maintained by any contribution of labourers, on the comparative cheapness of which labor lies the profit of the method of southern production. Mr. RUSSELL [illegible] to the niggers as well as the overseers. This was the style of colloquy with the latter: "Do you remember nothing of the country you came from, Bostowain?" "Yes, Sir; I remember trees, and sweet things my mother gave me, and much hot sand. I put my feet in, and big leaves that we play with, all as little children, and plenty to eat, and big birds and shells?" "Would you like to go back, Bostowain?" "What for, Sir? No one know old Bostowain there. * * * I'm getting very old. Nobody care much for dam old nigger like me."

DISGUSTED WITH THE MISSISSIPPI.

Even Mr. RUSSELL's comprehensive taste could not tolerate the Mississippi. He protests that it is the most uninteresting river in the world. "Not a particle of romance, in spite of oratorical patriots and prophets, can ever shine from its depths, sacred to cat and buffalo fish, or vivify its turbid waters." At Vicksburgh he heard the news of the defeat of an expedition from Fort Monroe against a Confederate force at Great Bethel, and beheld the rejoicings on account of the same—great waving of flags and cheering for JEFF. DAVIS and States' rights. As a cheerful impression it struck Mr. RUSSELL that the people of the Mississippi hardly came under the familiar category of civilized. Jackson, at which he stopped, averages a murder a month. "When my work was over," he says, "I walked out and sat in the shade with a gentleman whose talk turned upon the practices of the Mississippi *duelle*. Without the smallest scruple, and in the most natural way in the world, he told us tale after tale of blood, and recounted terrible tragedies enacted outside bars of hotels and in the public streets close beside us. The very air seemed to become purple as he spoke, the land assumed a veritable 'Aceldama.' Mr. RUSSELL, a humane man of peace, learnt many valuable hints in case he desired to take up his quarters in this interesting State. For example, it is impolitic to trust to small-bored pistols or to pocket six-shooters in case of a close discussion with your respondent. You must be secure of your major premiss, because if you hit a man with a small bullet he may still run in and rip you up with a bowie-knife, when you can hardly object in the phraseology of logicians that "the middle is undistributed." Whereas, "If you drive a good heavy bullet into him, or make a hole in him with a 'Derringer' ball, he gets faintish and drops at once."

A VALUABLE INJUNCTION.

One practical injunction is of great value. You must always watch if the hand of the gentleman with whom you are engaged in an altercation moves toward the pocket of his breeches. It is considered ungentlemanly in him to shoot you through the lining of his pocket, but some people have so little regard for that lining, or good manners generally, that they take this very irregular advantage. The Mississippi gentlemen were highly elated on account of the victory at Big or Little Bethel, and gave hearty evidence of their expectations and intents. One party carried a coffin with a plate, inscribed "ABE LINCOLN, died ——," and declared that they were "bound" to bring him back in it, and that they did not intend to use muskets or rifles, but to go in with knife and six-shooters, and whip the Yankees "right away." One of these heroes did not answer to the roll call, whereon another in his behalf (they were both Milesians) answered for his comrade. "He's the worse for drinkin in the cars, yer honor, and says he'll shoot us if we touch him." Such are the phenomena of peace and war in the State of Mississippi.

DISINTEGRATION THREATENED.

Even the South had then its difficulties from the tendencies of the States to a disintegration of the Southern Confederacy. "The Governors and Legislatures of the States view with dislike every motion on the part of Mr. DAVIS which tends to form the State troops into a national army." JEFF. DAVIS could only accomplish his purpose by delicate management and the perfect knowledge which he possesses of his countrymen. The artillery practice at Camp Randolph was not, however, much to Mr. RUSSELL's satisfaction. He declares that he would rather have been close to the target than the battery. Yet he saw the determination of the South intensified from day to day by the accounts from the North, and he returned northward with a strong conviction that the subjugation of the South was impossible. "An intelligent and clever man at Memphis stated to him that when the war was over it was the intention of the Southern magnates to put down the ruffianism which was so rife among them. So far it did not much matter, as the rowdies confined their shootings and stabbings chiefly to their own clubs. But better days were coming, when rowdyism would have to put its house in order."

CAIRO.

Cairo, which Mr. RUSSELL was told was the "Eden" of *Martin Chuzzlewit*, impressed him much as the Isle of Dogs might affect a despondent foreigner to be approached London by the river on a drizzly day in November. Here, at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi, the belligerents were in close proximity to each other, and Mr. RUSSELL read in the Cairo papers that the blood of the Hessians in the pay of the North "would poison the most degraded tumble-bug in creation." The Hessians in question had recently hauled down a secession flag on the river bank, and accordingly they were anathematized in the editorial leader as "bowlegged, wooden-shoed, sour-krout stinking, Bologna sausage eating, hen-roost-robbing, Dutch sons of ——," as "thieving sheep-dogs" and "sneaking skunks"—such are the amenities of Cairene literature. Col. FAXON, of the Tennessee Tigers, was the editor of the paper in question, and he devoted the Federal Gen. FREMONT to the immortal gods in phraseology of much the same tenor. It was Mr. RUSSELL's observation subsequently that Gen. FREMONT was annoyed by this, and that he was weak enough to show it—a sensitiveness which is hardly intelligible when we reflect that these controversialists were in a state of civil war.

JOHN BULL ON THE NORTH AND SOUTH.

Mr. RUSSELL observed a general tendency in the South to treat the Britisher on the other hand with unusual courtesy. The people of the seceding States, aware in their consciences that they have been most active in their hostility to Great Britain, and while they were in power were mainly responsible for the defiant, irritating and insulting tone commonly used to us by American statesmen, were anxious then, when so much depended on the action of foreign countries, to remove all unfavorable impressions by declarations of good-will, respect and admiration, not quite compatible with the language of their leaders in times not long gone by. The North, as yet unconscious of the loss of power, and regarding themselves as the whole of the United States, adhered to the language of the menacing school in which they had been reared, and considered it an outrage that the whole world did not join in active sympathy for a Government which, in its brief career, had contrived to affront every nation in Europe with which it had had dealings.

CHICAGO.

Mr. RUSSELL was then unable to visit Richmond, but he went to Chicago, which, under any circumstances of war or peace, is certain of prosperity. It is enough to say that by the borders of Lake Michigan there has sprung up in thirty years a wonderful city of fine streets, luxurious hotels, handsome shops, magnificent stores, great warehouses, extensive quays, capacious docks, and that as long as corn holds its own, and the mouths of Europe are open, and her hands full, Chicago will acquire greater importance, size and wealth with every year. Great is the difference between its climate and that of Louisiana and the Mississippi, while in sentiment it is east-distant between the South and the Abolitionists. When Mr. RUSSELL reached it, its special hero, Senator DOUGLAS, was dead, (he had died while Mr. RUSSELL was in the South,) and his portrait was in all the shop windows. "'Senator DOUGLAS, Sir,' observed one of his friends to me, 'died of bad whisky. He killed himself with it while he was stumping for the Union all over the country.' "Well," said Mr. RUSSELL, "I suppose, Sir, the abstraction called the Union, for which, by your own account, he killed himself, will give a pension to his widow?" On the contrary, it seems that nothing of the kind had been attempted; the patriot took his fill of bad whisky without compensation, and Mr. RUSSELL was told that the enormously wealthy community of which he was the idol was permitting his widow to live in a state not far removed from poverty. The same Chicago worthies held that the English people are fed by the beneficence of the United States, and that all the trade and commerce of England are simply directed to the one end of obtaining [illegible] to pay the Western States for their [illegible] supported our population. [illegible] equally dependent on [illegible] people of the East (for the sake of [illegible] mon to them all) [illegible] that they [illegible] a great blow at us by the Mobile [illegible]. And Mr. RUSSELL was told by a patriot in South Carolina, "Why, creation! if you let the Yankees shut up our ports, the whole of your darned ships will go to rot. Where will you get your naval stores from? Why, I guess, in a year you could not scrape up enough of turpentine in the whole of your country for Queen VICTORIA to paint her nursery door with." On all sides there was the same ignorance and narrow-minded confidence that the United States are the indispensable linchpin of European civilization.

BRAG AND BOMBAST.

Brag and bombast were thus continually exploding in the face of Mr. RUSSELL, even beside the solemn shores of Niagara. West Point turns out a military aristocracy, and Mr. RUSSELL heard complaints that the Irish and Germans were almost completely excluded, because the nominations to West Point were obtained by political influence, and the foreign element, though powerful at the ballot-box, has no enduring strength. The Murphies and Schmidts seldom succeed in shoving their sons into the American institution. "North and South," says Mr. RUSSELL, "I have observed the old pupils refer everything military to West Point. * * * I was with BEAUREGARD at West Point. He was three above me; or McDOWELL and I were in the same class. An officer is measured by what he did there, and if professional jealousies date from the state of common popinjay, so do lasting friendships. The masters on both sides spoke of their antagonists with respect, if they were West Point men, evidently judging them by the old school standard." When Mr. RUSSELL returned to New-York he saw the war fever in the ascendant. Every third man carried arms, whereas when he was there previously it was very rarely he encountered a uniform. Mr. RUSSELL takes exception more particularly to the Yankee in Sonnet costume. This dress, which becomes the broad-chested, stumpy, short-legged Celt, who seems specially intended for it, is singularly unbecoming to the tall and slightly built American. The ridiculous habit of dressing up children and young people up to ten and twelve years of age as Zouaves and vivandieres had been caught up by the old people, and Mars, it is said, would have died with laughter had he seen some of the abdominous bo-spectacled light infantry who were hobbling along the pavement. At all events, the writer said then, and said emphatically in our columns, that the die was cast—that there would be neither peace, compromise, union, nor secession until the war had determined the issue.

THE NORTH AROUSED.

The abrupt outburst of the North and the demonstration at New-York, filled the South first with astonishment and then with something like fear, which was rapidly fanned into anger by the Press and the politicians, as well as by the pride inherent in slaveholders. At this stage of the business, Mr. RUSSELL proceeded to Washington, where he found his former acquaintances preparing themselves with more ardor than efficiency, Baltimore, where, in the meantime, there had been bloodshed, was now reduced to tranquility by terrorism. Washington was full of the parade of war. "As I drove up Pennsylvania-avenue I could scarce credit that the busy thoroughfare—all red, white and blue with flags, filled with dust from galloping chargers and commissariat carts; the sidewalks thronged with people, of whom a large proportion carried sword or bayonet; shops full of life and activity—was the same as that through which I had driven the first morning of my arrival." Mr. SUMNER, however, knew little of what was occurring in the South, and Mr. SEWARD seemed disposed to provoke a war with England. He expressed his determination to Mr. RUSSELL to carry on the contest with a high hand. "The Government," he said, "will not shrink from using all the means which they consider necessary to restore the Union." Nor, as the event has proved, have they done so, though the Union is no nearer restoration in consequence. "A contest between Great Britain and the United States," said Mr. SEWARD, and he seemed to consider such a contest as probable, "would wrap the world in fire, and at the end it would not be the United States which would have to lament the results of the conflict." Mr. RUSSELL expresses his very natural astonishment at the coolness with which this gentleman could contemplate a contingency which would have blotted out the paper blockade of the South in a few hours, and, in conjunction with the Southern armies, have repeated the occupation and destruction of the Capital.

THE ARMY—A FAREWELL SERGEANT.

In the meantime the army was undisciplined and unprepared, without adequate transport or other accessories, while the New-York papers were describing its appointments as perfect, and infuriating the people of the North with anticipations of a speedy triumph. The Generals, however, were gleeny, and there was little concert agreement on the part of the representatives of foreign Powers. "With the exception, perhaps, of Baron GEROLT, the Prussian Minister, there was not one member of the Legations who justified the attempt of the Northern States to assert the supremacy of the Federal Government by force of arms." On the President hoisting the United States flag in his garden, the occasion was marked by a rather ominous event. As the President pulled the halyards and the flag floated aloft, a branch of a tree caught the bunting and tore it, so that a number of the stars and stripes were detached and hung dangling beneath the rest of the flag, detached from the flag. Every schoolboy will recall the equivalent omen when the standard of CHARLES I. was hoisted at Nottingham. Mr. RUSSELL provided himself with a pass to visit the army at this conjuncture. "That'll do; you may go," said the sentry to whom he exhibited it. "What pass is that, ABE?" inquired a non-commissioned officer. "It's from Gen. SCOTT, and says he's to go wherever he likes." "I hope, then, you'll go right away to Richmond, and get JEFF. DAVIS' scalp for us," said the patriotic sergeant.

THE BULL RUN BATTLE.

Mr. RUSSELL's conclusions on seeing the army were favorable neither to its discipline nor equipment. "I am," he says, "opposed to national boasting, but I do firmly believe that 10,000 British regulars, or 12,000 French, with a proper establishment of artillery and cavalry, would not only entirely repulse this army with the greatest ease, under competent commanders, but that they could attack them and march into Washington over them or with them, whichever they pleased. Not that Frenchmen or Englishmen is perfection, but that the American of this army knows nothing of discipline, and, what is more, cares less for it. After a ride to Hampton with Gen. BUTLER, and a return in a wheezy little steamer to Annapolis, Mr. RUSSELL encountered Gen. McDOWELL preparing to advance on Manassas. He had, however, much difficulty in obtaining a horse to accompany him, for exorbitant prices were asked for most incompetent animals. "If you want to see this fight," said the owner of one of them, "a thousand dollars is cheap. I guess there were chaps paid more than that to see JENNY LIND on her first night; and this battle is not going to be repeated, I can tell you." In the meanwhile, the little encounters preliminary to Bull Run were creating all kinds of rumors in Washington, and it was instructive to see the ignorance of European usages which mingled with Yankee bombast and exaggeration. A colonel told Mr. RUSSELL that McDOWELL, as a novelty, which would astonish the benighted Britishers, had a telegraphic wire laid in his wake as he advanced; to which Mr. RUSSELL replied that so had Lord CLYDE in India. "Oh, well, come now," quoth the colonel, "that's pretty good, that is; I believe you'll say next your Gen. CLYDE and our BENJAMIN FRANKLIN discovered lightning simultaneously."

Again, Gen. MANSFIELD was embarrassed by a few Confederate prisoners. "Rebels taken in arms in Europe," said he, "are generally hung or blown away from guns, I believe; but we are more merciful." The authorities were unwilling to give Mr. RUSSELL the privilege of drawing rations if he accompanied the army, and as he could scarcely stand a baggage train and commissariat on his own account, nor could plunder on his way like many of the Federals themselves, and, of course, had not the large acquaintance and resources of the members of the American Press, it was extremely difficult for him to witness the forthcoming battle under any circumstances. But he did contrive to make arrangements, hire a carriage and saddle-horse, with a negro boy to ride the latter, and, accompanied by one of the Attachés of the English Legation, he went out to see the fight.

INCIDENT.

Probably most people remember his description of the sequel in our pages, but the reader will find various other particulars here which are strikingly illustrative of the fortunes and tenors of the day. Thus, while the cannon were freely playing, somewhat early in the morning, Mr. RUSSELL met a Pennsylvania regiment quietly on its way home, because on that day it had completed its three months' term of service. When Mr. RUSSELL reached Centreville, with his companion, they had a good view of the battle, as they sat on the hill in their carriage, and here the news reached them that the Federals were advancing steadily. But, after Mr. RUSSELL had mounted his horse and ridden three or four miles, he fell in with the first rush of the receding foyce. His description of the thorough rout and confusion which followed is pictorial and vivid in a high degree, without the least attempt at exaggeration or fine writing; and he now appends, on page 240, some corroborative testimonies from American spectators to the accuracy of his report, which completes the refutation of the characteristic scribes who ventured to contradict him.

MR. RUSSELL CANVASSED.

After his return to Washington, and not till then, did he perceive the full extent of the reverses which had befallen the Northern army. It was tantalizing to have to sit with closed doors preparing his letter for his English readers, when there was so much to be seen and learnt in the streets then seething with the wreck of the Northern army. As he woke to resume his duties as correspondent:

"The rain was falling in torrents, and beat with a dull thudding sound on the leads outside my window; but, louder than all, came a strange sound, as if of the tread of men

[illegible] would only be surrounded by his aides, the staff of the Legation.

A DISGUSTED SERGEANT.

"Are you Russell of the Times?" said some the sergeant of the fort on the Long Bridge, as Mr. Russell passed into the town. "I just will look at the pass you will see what I am." He turned it over, examined it narrowly, and at last with an expression of infinite dissatisfaction and disgust on his face, handed it back, saying to the sentry, "I suppose I must let (at himself) Present." Gen. McDowell and one of his Aides cantered over, and while waiting for Gen. McClellan, he talked to Mr. Russell of the fierce onslaught he received against him in the Press. "I must confess," he said, laughingly, "I am much relieved to find you are as much abused as I am. I hope you mind it as little as I did." Gen. McDowell seemed on most excellent terms with his successor, as he was with the President. Immediately after Bull Run, when the President first saw McDowell, he said to him, "I have not lost a particle of confidence in you." To which the General replied, "I don't see why you should, Mr. President." Nevertheless, Mr. President had been compelled to degrade him to satisfy the cry of the American bar-rooms.

MR. RUSSELL INDORSED.

Gen. McClellan invited Mr. Russell to a soldier's breakfast as he was inspecting the camp. Here he met Gen. Sherman, Gen. Keyes, Wadsworth and some others, and he was exceedingly gratified to hear every officer present declare in the presence of the General who had commanded the army, and who himself said no strong word, exaggerate the disorder of the rout, that his narrative of Bull Run was not only true, but moderate. Gen. Sherman, whom our correspondent met for the first time, said, "Mr. Russell, I can indorse every word that you wrote; your statements about the battle, which you say you did not, witness, are equally correct. All the stories about charging batteries and attacks with the bayonet are simply falsehoods, so far as my command is concerned, though some of the troops did fight well. As to cavalry charges, I wish we had had a few cavalry to have tried one; those black horse fellows seemed as if their horses ran away with them." Gen. Keyes said, "I don't think you made it half bad enough. We could not get the men to stand after they had received the first severe check. The enemy swept the field with a tremendous musketry fire. Some of our men and portions of regiments behaved admirably. We drove them easily at first; the cavalry did very little indeed, but when they did come on it could not get the infantry to stand, and after a harmless volley they broke." These officers were Brigadiers of Tyler's Division. And let the New-York Press print this as a sequel to their strictures on the narrative of Bull Run, that "every soldier at table" denounced their influence and pretensions. The principal accusations made against them were that the conduct[illegible] were not gentlemen; that they were calumnious and corrupt, regardless of truth, honor, anything but circulation and advertisements. "It is the first time we have had a chance," said they, "of dealing with these fellows, and we shall not lose it."

MR. BRAY.

Mr. Russell is particularly amusing in his reminiscences of a certain Dr. Bray, of the Chicago *Tribune*, who professed to contradict him with an impudence peculiarly which was a surprise even among his many startling experiences. He had fallen in with this worthy on the retreat, had assuaged his fears, had even, out of compassion for his sufferings in the saddle, recommended him unlaced yellow and whisky for the part afflicted. But Bray was not only ungrateful, but perfidious; and "some day," says Mr. Russell, "when I have time, I must tell the people of Chicago how Bray got into Washington, and how he left his horse, and what he did with it, and how Bray behaved on the road. I dare say they who know him can guess." Thus he encountered a month of exposure to calumny, falsehood, not to speak of danger—after being pointed at by a host of scowling commentators as "Bull Run Russell." Even on the 1st of September a dirty German soldier called out from the parapet of an earthwork over the Long Bridge, "Pull Run Russell!" and at the same time cocked his piece and leveled it. Mr. Russell immediately rode round into the fort, the fellow still presenting his firelock, and asked him what he meant, at the same time calling for the Sergeant of the guard, who came at once, and at his request arrested the man, who recovered arms, and said, "It was a choke; I want to freeken Pull Run Russell." As the man's rifle was capped and loaded, and on full cock, Mr. Russell did not see the fun of the proceeding so clearly, and urged an investigation into his conduct, which he did not, however, think it necessary to pursue.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

On Sept. 5, "the event of the day was the appearance of the President in a suit of black, with a parcel in his hand, walking, umbrellaless, in the rain. Mrs. Lincoln had returned, and the worthy "Executive" will no longer be obliged to go "browsing round," as he says, "among his friends at dinner-time." Even the "Executive" was not so good-humored, nor Mrs. Lincoln so affable in their return to our correspondent's salutation as usual. Some Philadelphia people got up a petition against him to Mr. Seward, on the ground of his "irreasonable practices and misrepresentations," and the Professor of Rhetoric delivered a lecture on him to a volunteer regiment. On the 28th of September he was arrested on a little excursion into Illinois, as "the Honorable Lord William Russell, in the name of the people of the Commonwealth of Illinois." The defence which his friend, Col. Forney, made in his behalf, reads like a passage from a Christmas extravaganza, yet it did not exempt him from a fine of 20s. for accompanying the Colonel in a shooting excursion on the prairies on Sunday, against which it is but fair to state he had protested. The latter part of Mr. Russell's diary is probably droller than anything which our theatrical wits will produce this Christmas. We regret especially that we have no space for the story respecting the President, on page 372 of the second volume. The United States have been a vast burlesque on the functions of national existence, and it was Mr. Russell's fate to behold their transformation scene, and to see the first tumbles of their clowns and pantaloons. It was time for him to come away, though the shame of his retirement was theirs. He did his duty while he was with them, and left them a legacy in his *Diary*.

Death of Bishop Mountain, of Quebec.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

QUEBEC, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 1863.

His Lordship, Bishop Mountain, of Quebec, died this morning, after a brief illness—a man who deserves a memoir in your columns.

King George III. with all his faults, had some sterling ideas in his thick, Anglo-German head. He stood up, for instance, manfully, for maintaining the integrity of his Empire, which his Ministers' folly first endangered and ultimately destroyed. And having a cooked conviction that the Church is one of the pillars of the Crown, he caused to be set apart from the ungranted lands of Western Canada one-seventh part, for the perpetual maintenance of a Protestant clergy within this Province. Unfortunately it so happened that these clergy reserves became at length a source of bitter contention among us, and the Imperial act was at length repealed. The rights of the clergy being bought up by the Province. But this is not to the point. I write to tell you that, having set apart the lands, King George III. thought he could not do better than send us a Bishop, too, which he did, in 1792, at which time there were just six other Anglican clergy in Lower Canada, and three in Upper Canada.

The person he selected was the Right Rev. Jacob Mountain, who, with his family, came hither to live. In due course of time this first Canadian Bishop was gathered to his fathers, and was succeeded by Bishop Stewart, who, finding his charge too onerous, first procured a son of the late episcopate to be made Bishop of Montreal, and then, his health failing, retired from Canada, leaving on the shoulders of Bishop Mountain II. the sole government of the Church in Canada. This was in '38, and I may here state that the subject of this notice was born at Norwich, England, in 1789, graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and then rejoined his father in the Colonies, where he became Rector of Fredericton, New-Brunswick, and afterward Rector of Quebec. After this, Mountain, by virtue of his talents, the authority of Bishop Mountain II. extended over a wider area than that of any other Prelate in the world. His diocese stretched from Labrador in the east to and beyond Red River in the west, while contiguous to the south with Canada, it reached northward to the furthest limits of the continent. He was His Lordship's man to devote any part of his life, however distant, to look after them. He visited the various stations in Prince Rupert's Land, on the one side, and frequently went down to Gaspé, the Magdalen Islands, and Labrador, on the other—this, too, at a time when as yet railways and steamboats were not. It was, however, deemed expedient to increase the number of our Bishops, and there are now six dioceses, with more than two hundred clergy, where there used to be, in the time of His Lordship's father, but one prelate and a flock of nine! The dignity of Metropolitan was offered to Bishop Mountain a couple of years ago; but, with the humility which always distinguished him, declined.

It must not be imagined that, while attending to his duties as a prelate, the late Bishop neglected the humbler ones of a minister of the Church. When the ship fever raged most violently among the Irish emigrants, and thousands of the poor, half-starved creatures landed on our shores but to die at that terrible pestilence, Bishop Mountain went to the Quarantine Station at Grosse Isle, and, regardless of aught but the duties of his office, indefatigably ministered to the sick of all denominations. Equally sublime were his exertions during the years when we were visited by cholera.

His lordship received a considerable stipend from England, of which he expended a large share in maintaining the clergy attached to the churches he saw spring up in Quebec. In addition to this, he contributed largely to the support of the Church of England College at Lennoxville, C. E., which owes its foundation to him, and, indeed, his hand was ever open in support of all good works.

Though 73 years of age, and showing much increased infirmity since the death of his beloved wife in 1861, he was not expected to die yet, for he preached twice in his Cathedral only a fortnight since, and ordained two priests a week ago. But, one night, awakening with the remembrance that he had left a letter unwritten the previous evening, he rose, and performed that duty in too cold a room, which brought on at once a violent attack of congestion of the lungs, of which he has just died, bringing a well-spent life to a peaceful close. The feeling of deep regret is general among all classes, rich and poor, and it is universally felt that it will be almost impossible to find so much firmness, wisdom and tact, blended with so much kindness of manner and true benignity, in any one who may be chosen to succeed him.

GOSSIP FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

The Ophir Silver Mine—Collections for the Sanitary Commission—The Massachusetts Contingent—A Sword for Gen. Hooker—Miscellaneous Matters.

From Our Own Correspondent.

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, Dec. 11, 1862.

Somebody says that certain somethings, like chickens, come home to roost. The proverb came to my mind the other evening, when I picked up the *Evening Bulletin* and found therein an extract from my last letter to the TIMES, in which I had given a little history of the panic in the stock of the Ophir Silver Mine, that wonderful institution that has been for the last two years the great gun of all the mines in Washoe, and in which there has been a deal of money lost and made. Laugh reverse the figure and say, *made, and lost, for many of those who made* were not wise enough to stop when they had made, but kept on until they had lost. In the extract referred to, I gave a little history of the panic and causes for the sudden depreciation of the stock from $2,950 per foot to $1,800 in five days. Since that letter was written the compromise (as I predicted) has been effected, and the Directors who did not buy up the adverse claim to the Virginia Ledge, said by the great Patrick to be the "Mother vein," at a few thousand dollars, have now voted for acquiring it at $100,000, at which figure the matter has been definitely settled. The adverse claim I speak of was by common consent "referred" to W. C. Ralston and Lloyd Tevis, with full powers to "settle." The owners said they must have $200,000, but left it discretionary with the gentlemen named, who were determined to settle it, and finally did, at the price mentioned, ($100,000,) much to the dissatisfaction of Messrs. Garrison & Smith, the claimants and principals, who made a great "row" about accepting that trifle; but I think they were something like the Irishman, who was so full of fight and eagerness to get at his adversary, at the same time he whispered, "Hould me tight"—(you couldn't hold an Irishman any other way, for they are generally light enough for all practical purposes.) Garrison talks about his being "absolutely thrown away;" but I opine there are few people who feel very bad a very long time about a little error that gives them $100,000, at least two-thirds of which are clear profit. I have a few mining interests myself that I would like to throw away at that price. I would stand the sacrifice with Christian-like fortitude. Well! the matter as far as the Ophir mine is concerned, is settled, and the Directors, with great satisfaction to themselves, retire gracefully upon their laurels, and go on with their little speculations in stock, which are not particularly "set back" by the knowledge and information they necessarily gain by being behind the scenes. I said in my last letter that they had a narrow escape from being stupid; the more I hear of their management the more miraculous their escape seems. The annual meeting took place yesterday, however, and a new Board of Directors were elected, and we hope the assembled wisdom will manage the affairs of the Company with a little more shrewdness than the old Board. A change has also been made in the Superintendency. That Auriferous Solomon, Palmer, mentioned in my last, is the new Superintendent, at a salary almost equal to that of the President of the United States. Great things are expected of Palmer, and increased dividends are anticipated under his management. Palmer has a great reputation, and he appears to have earned it, not, as most men do, by "talking," but by never opening his lips. Nobody, to my knowledge, ever heard him say anything, but he is expected to *do* something. If people are judged by their works, the old Board of Directors would not get a very favorable judgment by their "Ophir works." They spent about a million and a half in their efforts to pay a few *dividends! I would take one per cent on the* expenses for my share, and call it square.

The collections for the Sanitary Commission still go on, and there is no end to the money we can send if it is necessary. What has already been done in that way is nothing to what we could do.

The company of cavalry raised here to join the [illegible] heard, marched through the streets to-day, and the papers always say, "presented a very soldierly appearance." All that is necessary to earn that compliment being to show themselves in their new uniforms and present a cast-iron rigidity of body and the usual uncomfortable air throughout upon new clothes and the chinking effects of half leather shoes. The company was raised here in a few days, and great care taken to accept only such men as will do credit to the State. They were selected from a host of applicants, and in order to have only men of good character and amiable disposition, married men were excluded—there being only one in the company. In this, I think, a great mistake was made. If they had taken only married men they would have been assured of having men inured to war, and who had often come to the scratch. The Company numbers one hundred, and was equipped from a fund raised by subscription in one day. The Captain, (J. Sewell Reed,) although a young man, is said to be a good officer. He has a splendid body of men, and if they don't do good service it will be the fault of their officers, not theirs.

Every man before being accepted is put upon the outside of a horse, and put through a course of "turn out your toes," and the supposition is they all know how to ride, which is somewhat essential for cavalry, who ought to be doing something in a fight besides holding on to the pommel of the saddle. I am very much afraid those uses of (their) "Maze" will not look quite so nice by the time they arrive in New-York, unless, indeed, the splendid steamers that ply between Aspinwall and New-York are kept a little cleaner than formerly. Look out for green-coats on those sky-blue trowsers, and don't make ungenerous remarks, but attribute it to the scarcity of soapsuds and scrub-brushes, furnished (?) by liberal agents of the steamers aforesaid. We send you this company as a fair sample of some thousands more ready and willing to go if wanted.

The splendid sword being manufactured here for Gen. Hooker is nearly finished, and will do credit to California. It is to be hoped that it will be exhibited in some show-case or window in Broadway, where all New-York can see it, as it will be a "nice thing." Messrs. Mair & Winchester, large manufacturers of saddles and harness, are also doing something in the way of proving to the General that he has many good friends in California, which State claims him as its own special property. Mair & Winchester are making the General a splendid saddle, bridle and trappings thereunto appertaining—all the materials being of California manufacture—and if Mr. Grinsby "or any other man" can beat it they had better try. There are probably several Brigadiers who would not object to a similar demonstration.

The saddle for Gen. Hooker will be sent to the care of Brewster & Co., those unrivaled builders of natty wagons, No. 272 Broome-street, and they will be duly authorized to exhibit it. Speaking of wagons, reminds me very naturally of horses. There has been a great mortality among them here recently. California has always been considered the healthiest country in the world for man or beast, but an epidemic of a fatal character has been raging among the latter, which has carried off some good ones. The first symptoms are sneezing and coughing, followed by swelling of the throat and glands, and in twenty-four hours they are laid out cold.

Mr. Terry lost a recently imported stallion, for which he, the day before, refused $8,000. A Mr. Brown lost *Kentucky Chief*, valued at $10,000. Messrs. Gowen and Covey lost a famous pacer, *called Silver Tail, valued at $1,500. A stallion,* named *Gen. M. Patchin*, imported by a Mr. Henderson from New-Jersey, at great expense, and valued at $10,000, is very sick and will probably die. The horse-men call this disease "lung fever" and "pneumonia," and several other names, according to their peculiar ideas. Several other private horses, unknown to fame, but valuable, have also fallen victims to this incurable disease, which proves that horse-flesh, like "white man," is "mighty uncertain." In anticipation of a similar accident to my famous steed *Gallinipper*, I sold him the other day at a large discount on his value. In ordinary times he was worth a hundred, easy, but in this panic-y state of the horse market, I had to take ninety-five and a box of cigars that I couldn't smoke; but as the "critter" had a facetious way of putting his heels through the "dash" when in a buggy, and of putting his nose to the ground and his hind legs in the air when under the saddle, I don't think I was so badly "done." I recommended this animal as a test-horse for the trial of raw recruits who are ambitious to join Capt. Rexer's Cavalry Company. They do say a man will "do" his own father and grandfather in a horse-trade. I am, perhaps, an exception to the rule, but there's a deal of truth in it.

The "Unfermented Bread Company," that commenced business here with a grand flourish of trumpets, have got themselves into a state of fermentation and by the care with the man with whom they contracted to deliver their bread. That individual has a *very good thing of it*, he having contracted with the Company to receive and deliver all their bread—pays them 3½ cents per loaf and gets, and thereby makes about $100 per day. The Company, finding they had made a bad bargain, sought to break the contract and deliver the article themselves, and the result was a lawsuit, of course, and several lawyers are making their bread out of both parties. There has been a great fuss about it, and much gas expended in talk than is used in the making of the bread. The contractor continues to deliver and the people to eat it, without caring who wins.

The new hotel—the Occidental—about to be opened by the Lelands, is a splendid affair, and will be *the* hotel of the Pacific coast. No pains or expense is spared by Mr. Donahoe, the owner, in fitting it up, and all the latest improvements will be introduced. The kitchen is a perfect wonder, and the finest any hotel can boast of in any city. In point of finish the house is not excelled by any hotel in New-York, and the fact of its being in the hands of the Lelands is a sufficient guarantee that it will be kept in a style to make everyone stopping at it exclaim, these boys "can keep a hotel." No hotel in New-York has so magnificent a dining-room, or so elegantly and chastely finished. I looked in yesterday, and found a perfect army of servants, mechanics and artists at work—painters, frescoers, upholsterers—and the busy hum of preparation was going on in every corner. I felt very much like engaging my room, but observing an artist scrawling on a little gilt sign in the office, upon which was printed, "All board bills payable weekly in advance," I did not think *it advisable to offer my society to the institution.* Any quantity of people, that I know, however, for whom that uncharitable, but very significant sentence has no terrors, are applying for rooms. All the most expensive apartments are already taken, and they are obliged to refuse applications daily of more customers than the house will hold. The establishment will cost [illegible]

FROM UTAH.

Christmas Festivities—The New Theatre—A Hostile Ball—The Legislature—The Weather and Business.

From Our Own Correspondent.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1862.

To-night the "upper ten" of Mormondom assemble, by special invitation, in the new and completed theatre, to attend the "dedicatory" services. The building was roughly and temporarily completed for performances last Winter, and a "dedication" was held then, which consisted of music by a choir, a speech by Brigham, remarks by others, a dedicatory prayer by Daniel H. Wells, the whole of the religious services being followed by "The Pride of the Market."

But, during the Summer and until the last moment, a host of carpenters, painters, plasterers, gilders, decorators and others, have been busy inside and outside of the building, and it is reported now finished and ready for the sovereign people, or that portion of them who patronize the drama. Important alterations have been made in the interior. Last Winter, the parquette was small, being circumscribed by the "first circle" or gallery, and the fiddler's pit—orchestra, I should have said. The "circle" or gallery then, numbered four. Now, they are reduced to three in number, and are thrown much further back from the stage. Consequently, the parquette now comprises the whole lower portion of the auditory, and the whole interior looks more spacious.

On Monday there was a rush to the theatre for the purpose of securing special boxes and procuring season tickets. But the considerable—yes, or its equivalent—proved rather a damper, and I believe little business was done. But anyone at all acquainted with Brigham's way of doing, will readily believe that he will make the drama a paying institution in Salt Lake City.

Of the services to-night, very few of the invited, even, have any definite idea. Most, if not all, are satisfied that there will be a speech, a dedicatory prayer and some singing, and that there will be no afterpiece in the shape of a play. But as to whether a concert, a ball, or various dances will constitute a part of the exercises, opinion is divided. Perhaps Brigham has not fully determined in his own mind, as he is a strong believer in being led by the spirit at the particular moment of action.

To-morrow, Christmas evening, the theatre is to be open to the public. The opening will be inaugurated by the performance of "The Honeymoon," which will be followed by a "patriotic address," and the farce of "Paddy Miles' Boy."

To-night, also, a grand "Gentile" ball is held in the Social Hall, graced by the Governor and other Government officers, the telegraph and mail managers and employes, the merchants, and probably a decent sprinkling of the California volunteers. Perhaps the female element will not be so largely represented as is common at a purely Mormon ball. The talk used to be that at such a ball not a Mormon belle could be found in this city to make the ball any ways tolerable. The times may have improved in this respect. It is certainly my impulse when broadcloth outnumbers calicoes five to one. *In this particular, Brigham and his disciples actually* have the advantage, in Utah at least.

The "situation" of the "irrepressible conflict" in this Territory is altogether unique. The Legislature persists in not printing his Excellency's message, and even make no mention of him, or of that document. So report has it that the Governor has sent his message elsewhere to be printed, and that it will shortly be back, multiplied by a distant press. If so, the eagerness to read the production will soon be satisfied, and others than those who were so fortunate as to hear it will have a chance to learn the views of the chief magistrate of the Territory on some rather thrilling points of Utah law and Mormon theology.

Meanwhile the Governor and the members of the Legislature are scarcely on speaking terms, and neither party is by any means anxious to see in the other's way. Of course, both parties expect to gain the victory, and as both are of a religious turn, prayers for success are doubtless plentiful on both sides. But the most of the people are wondering how this funny quarrel will come out. Whether, like the letting out of water, the strife will increase until it comes to a formidable head, or whether one party will kick the other's pardon, and both shake hands and be friends, though this last idea has no likelihood of being realized, according to present appearances, and considering the contumacious character of human nature in Utah.

As to the Legislature, the fine stage heartily enough, a few bills and measures have been presented and discussed, but scarcely any action has ensued at present. The bills and subjects presented refer chiefly to roads, bridges, prisons, local taxes and the distribution of the United States Judges for the Territory. If the Governor, in his turn, should prove froward and refuse to sign any bills, why then the Legislative car will be locked and moored. What an interesting game at cross-purposes that would be! What a nice balance of power! But this is a day of great events. We live in strange times, and who can tell what a day will bring forth!

The weather continues exceedingly mild. The ground is nearly bare of snow. The days are warm, and the night frosts are no sharper than some that we are apt to have in September. In fact digging and tree-planting can now be prosecuted almost as well as at any time; yet a week might bring in a knockdey snow fall & below-zero temperature, which would certainly be a tolerable variation for us.

The run on the stores still continues, the paper money, Treasury notes or United States drafts. In fact it is some time since the main street of this city presented so busy an appearance as it has the past few weeks. The stores must be reaping a golden (paper) harvest, and their till's cleared last very long at the present rate. California is being, and will be visited for a renewal. The fine weather may have a bearing on the question, permitting the country people to travel long distances to the city to market.

COAL OIL—GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.—There has been a sudden fall in the price of coal oil for several days past, and yesterday it was sold at about the same price as it did at the first of the year. In January, 1862, some few refined were made at from 25 to 35 cents per gallon, and in June there was a decline of about 9 cents on the gallon, and crude oil sold as low as 5 cents per gallon. Prices advanced considerably up to the close of November, when refined oil was sold at from 70 to 80 cents per gallon, but in December there was a decline to 45 and 55 cents. Large quantities were purchased at these prices by speculators and closed up, with the idea that the navigation in the coal oil region would be closed with ice, but the weather continuing moderate, and the rivers having a good stage of water, there has been such an accumulation of oil that prices have tumbled down much to the chagrin of large holders. The sales of refined oil yesterday were very heavy, at from 37 to 45 cents per gallon—*most of the sales being at the first-named figure.* About 1,200 barrels of crude were sold at from 23 to 24 cents per gallon, which is about 20 cents less than sales made in December, 1862. The exports from the port of Philadelphia during 1862 amounted to 2,007,203 gallons, valued at $629,676. Of the whole amount exported, 2,054,830 gallons were sent to Great Britain.—*Philadelphia Ledger, Jan. 3.*

—A letter is advertised in the Ocean *Adventurer* as Miss Amanda Wunder.

—Hon. Charles R. Buckalew, the representative in United States Senate from Pennsylvania, was born in Columbia County, in 1822, and has voted with the Democratic Party ever since he was of age. He was in early life a surveyor, and was Prosecuting Attorney of Columbia County under the Administration of Gov. Shunk. He subsequently was appointed Commissioner to investigate the affairs of the Bank of Susquehanna County, and in 1855 was appointed Special Commissioner to exchange the ratifications of the treaty with Paraguay. He was Senatorial Presidential Elector for this State in 1856. In 1857 he was Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, and in 1858 he was appointed one of the Commissioners to revise the penal code of the State. This appointment, together with the office of Senator, he resigned in 1860, the year of that year, and accepted an appointment under the General Government as Minister Resident to Peru, from which country he returned in August, 1861. He is the author of the several amendments to the Constitution of the State which were adopted last Fall, relating to the public indebtedness, municipal corporations, the division of counties, and the division of the City of Philadelphia into single Senatorial and Representative districts.

—The Lancaster, (Penn.) *Examiner and Herald* of Jan. 1, has this curious story: "Mr. Abraham Hershey, an aged farmer, died at his residence in West Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, last week, and was buried on Friday. After his death, a large amount of specie, gold and silver was discovered in the house, and deposited in the bank. The gold was in bags, and was found in various places. The amount of specie, gold and silver was deposited in the bank, and amounted to $28,000. The silver was in bags of various sizes, not from the weight, is estimated at over $26,000. Mr. Hershey was an unmarried man, but lived in his farm-house, occupying a room up stairs as a sleeping chamber and a repository for his wealth. In this chamber he kept his iron safe, containing part, but not all of his wealth, for besides his specie, he owned a number of valuable farms of 150 acres on which he lived, toiled and died. Somewhat since, it was known, we learn, that on Monday another 'deposit' was found in the house. This time the 'bank' was an old blanket, and on the contents being investigated, it was found to contain $1,400; $950 of this was in gold, and the balance in bonds, &c."

—Mr. James E. Murdock is giving a series of readings in Washington for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers. In opening the course, after an introduction by Senator Wilson, he made a few remarks, in the course of which he said:

"There is so much of inspiration in this great cause, so much that is right and Christian and just and benevolent, that I could not resist the temptation of giving up, for the time being, my formal professional duties, in order to devote myself to such efforts as would assist the sick and wounded soldiers of the Republic. The good physician—the surgeon—has much to heal the diseased and to alleviate the suffering of the lacerated soldier; but, in my short experience as a volunteer in the Western country, I have frequently noticed that a small scene of fun, whether it be like a gleam of light from the Sun or a charitable wishes, has been almost as effective as the ministrations of the sprite in allaying the anguish of the amputating knife. Who can conceive the great results that have flowed from the hymns that are chanted by our troops during the long and weary march?"

—Richard H. Dana, Jr., of Boston, recently received, through Messrs. Stearns, Hebert & Co., of Bombay, the sum of $1,000, the gifted a Hindoo gentleman of that city, Kavasdass Madhavdas, with a request that it might be given for the relief of some family that has suffered in the war. Mr. Dana has divided the sum equally, and given it to two families. One is the family of a teacher, who sent his two sons to the war, and the other to the war. These were officers in Massachusetts regiments, one of whom was killed at Antietam, and the other died of fever, leaving their father with a family of six daughters. The other family is the widow with four young children of a Major of artillery, a field and staff officer, who have lost in him their only means of support. One of these families is American and Protestant, the other Irish and Roman Catholic. Mr. Dana made the acquaintance of Karsandas Madhavdas at Bombay, in 1860. He was a student of English and American history and literature, and was deeply interested in the advancement of liberal institutions and of freedom in the social systems of mankind.

—The Brig.-Gen. Baines, killed in the battle of Murfreesboro, is a very different person from the General who has been so conspicuous in Missouri. He was formerly an active Union man, and for several years acted the Nashville Banner. When he had taken his position with the rebels, he resigned his place as Attorney-General for the judicial district in which Nashville is located, to accept the position of Colonel of a Tennessee regiment, but soon received the commission of a Brigadier. As commander of the rebel forces at Cumberland Gap, he won for himself the intense hatred of all loyal East Tennessee, by his malignant persecutions of them. At the time of his death, Gen. Baines was only thirty-five years of age.

—Sergt. Reuben Twist, who died at South Bend, Indiana, Dec. 3, was a grandson of Stephen Twist, who served in the Revolutionary War; son of Sergt. Stephen Twist, second, who fought in the war of 1812; brother of Sergt. Stephen Twist, third, also in the war of 1812, and uncle of Sergt. Stephen F. Twist, fourth, who is now in the Fourth United States Cavalry, under Gen. Rosecrans. Another nephew, Henry B. Brent, is a staff officer in the Maryland Cavalry. A female member of this patriotic family, who sound the alarm to the Rebels at Fredericksburg, from Port Royal, Marlborough, states that three generations of her ancestors have been born on United States property. There can be no doubt about their title to citizenship.

—It is stated that Gen. Halleck, after the disaster at Fredericksburgh, experienced great anxiety for the safety of the army under Gen. Burnside, fearing that Lee would dispatch an overwhelming force to overpower them. He told Gen. Foster, during his recent visit to Washington, that he had no sleep for two nights while thinking of the matter. As a large body of rebel troops were actually sent forward, he considered the escape of Gen. Foster, after having so thoroughly broken up the communications of the enemy, as a most fortunate occurrence.

—Gen. Lane was in Leavenworth, Kansas, on Jan. 4. The Conservative states that Gen. Lane is still a recruiting Commissioner, and that he will go to work again as soon as Congress adjourns. To report great in Arkansas will be expected, and it is expected that ten regiments will be raised very soon from that State, and a large number from Texas. These troops will be used in the manner designated in the President's Proclamation.

—Edwin Forrest, during his recent visit to Boston, purchased three original pictures, entitled "Life's Day," for two thousand dollars. They were painted by Mr. A. F. Bellows, Mr. Forrest giving to the artist the privilege of exhibiting the pictures for his (Mr. Bellows') benefit in Boston, New-York and Philadelphia. He also allows Mr. Bellows to retain the copyright of the pictures. They are said to possess extraordinary merit as works of high art.

—E. W. Taylor, the successor of Hon. Elisha Whittlesey as First Comptroller of the Treasury, was a few student under his predecessor in Canfield, Ohio. He acted for several years as cashier of the Mahoning County Bank with great acceptance to his employers. He was repeatedly represented his district in the Ohio Senate, and the financial ability which he displayed as a leading member of the Committee on Finance, secured him an election to the State Auditorship.

—An unsuccessful attempt to interfere with a lecture by Wendell Phillips was made in Troy a few evenings since. Two following handbills were circulated through the city with that object:

"Caution to Ladies.—As the Great High Priest of Blasphemy, the author of the following words, 'I have labored for nineteen years to break up this Accursed Union,' is advertised to lecture at Odeon Place Hall this (Tuesday) evening, ladies are advised to remain at home, as some may be circulated promiscuously."

—Rev. E. W. Hager, an Episcopal clergyman of Chicago, was recently visited in his vestry-room by a negro or mulatto, who, by threats of personal violence, accosted him to admit men who insulted certain ladies and made unfounded charges against them. These men were after words arrested and held to bail, but the scandal mongers are looking forward with pleasant anticipations to the developments of the trial when it comes to court.

—Col. Frank E. Howe, the well-known and efficient Superintendent of the New-England Soldiers' Relief Association in this City received a public welcome in Brookline, Mass., his native town, on the evening of Jan. 2. Gov. Andrew was present, and spoke briefly of the value of the Colonel's labors, and a collection was taken up for the benefit of the enterprise.

—N. S. Morse, formerly editor of the Bridgeport (Conn.) Farmer, a paper whose reasonable prolixities secured it the special attention of a somewhat celebrated literary master, died last year, and chased an interest in the Augusta (Ga.) *Chronicle and Sentinel*, where he can ventilate his peculiar ideas without fear of interruption.

—Capt. M. Dunn, of Co. D, of the Nineteenth Massachusetts Regiment, was wounded in the battle of Fredericksburgh, and would undoubtedly have been killed had not the ball which struck him glanced upon a key-ring which he fortunately had in his pocket.

—A curious suit is on trial in Philadelphia. John P. Sadler sues Dr. H. G. Wheaton for damages, alleging that an attack of paralysis, which he contained last April, was superinduced by the administration of chloroform by the doctor.

—The Gen. Brown reported wounded on Christmas, was formerly Mayor of Toledo, Ohio. He is not the Maj.-Gen. Brown, formerly Commander-in-Chief of Scott's armies, nor the Brown of St. Louis when the war broke out, and entered the service as Lieut.-Colonel of Governor's Missouri Regiment. While Provost-Marshal of Tipton he was a soldier for insubordination. For this he was tried by Court-martial and not only acquitted, but the sentence quashed. He was in the battle of Pea Ridge and in several other engagements.

—Gen. McClellan has been spending several days very pleasantly in Philadelphia, and has received numerous testimonials from citizens in the vicinity. One of these is quite a unique and valuable memento. It consists of a small engraved portrait of Washington, inclosed in the original envelope on which was written, in Washington's handwriting, "The President's compliments to Mrs. Morris, and regrets for Mrs. Morris." This was presented to Gen. McClellan by a lineal relative of Robert Morris.

—Mr. Bright (Senator) has written a long letter expressing the sentiments of Democrats in the United States Senate for the short term. If the Illinois Legislature will elect him by "a vote from any politician meaning," Mr. Bright considers it "a rebuke from the Senate on outrages against freedom of speech and against the right of the Federal Government to recognize a war against the seceded States."

The Boston (Mass.) *Register* says: "Gen. Rosecrans is a strict Roman Catholic; his mother, however, was born among the very earliest settlers of Rocky Country, N. J., was all Protestant. Gen. Rosecrans, the father of the General, removed from this county to Ohio, where the General was born, we believe, of one of the emigrants who came thither from Sussex with John Cleves Symmes, the father-in-law of the late President Harrison."

—Lieut.-Col. Appleton, of the Eighth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, who was wounded in the ankle at the battle of Antietam, has returned to his home in Myrtle Bridge. He had just had an important operation performed by Dr. Jewett, of New-Haven, for the purpose of extracting the ball, and it is now considered doubtful whether he will be able to walk.

—Col. John Q. Adams, of Gen. Anderson's staff, now in Washington, received a letter from his father, Hon. Charles Francis Adams, Minister to England, on Jan. 7, from which it appears that the relation of the Minister with our Minister at Turin are most cordial and pleasant now, than at any time previous since Mr. Adams went to London.

It is stated that on the night of Wednesday, a panic, prudential Generals supposed Gen. Longstreet would retreat. He never entertained such idea, although members of his staff, we are complimented for his tenacity. "Yes," said he, "I dare say they have Bragg's good do but Holdfast is better." The soldiers are with Gen. Longstreet, and will fight for him now even more stubbornly than before.

—Miss Henrietta Snyder was married to Capt. Wallace, of the Sixth Ohio Volunteers, in a Cincinnati town hospital, on Jan. 4, and the same day her husband, who had been wounded in the battle of Prairie Grove, died in consequence of Rosecrans' operating upon amputation.

—Two foolish fellows have gone to law in Troy, over the proprietorship of a goose, which was put up at a raffle several days ago. The joke of it is that the bird was eaten by one of the litigants, but that has not prevented "the exchequer of all concerned being taxed," and the summoning of an array of skilled lawyers.

—Elder Davis, of Hillsborough, N. H., has brought an action against the Boston and Maine Railroad, and recovered $750 damages for injuries sustained by being put off the cars because he refused to give up his ticket and take a conductor's check in exchange. The case will be carried up by the Company.

—Major-Gen. Lew. Wallace arrived in New-Albany, Ind., on Jan. 6. He expects soon to be relieved from duty on the Ruffle Inquiry Commission, and then, unless his calculations are erroneous, he will be ordered to report to Gen. Burnside, under whom he will have an important command.

—The case of Col. J. Buchanan Cross has come before the Supreme Court in Philadelphia. He demands a release from confinement for having been too smart as to obtain a pardon from Gov. Curtin through the agency of forged papers, but he is not likely to get it.

—One J. B. Gardner made his appearance for Clarion County, Penn., a few days since, after an absence of 20 years. He found that during his absence his wife had given him up as dead, and married Mr. Camp—an event at which he expressed no great regret.

—Gen. Ernesto L. Hagedorn, formerly editor of the Sunday Courier and Daily Sentinel, has recently been appointed Inspector-General of Artillery of the Republic of Venezuela, South America, by Gen. Paez, the supreme chief of that republic.

—Rev. Will Tennyson, of Martinsburg, Berkeley, this office writes to the Independent and he has signed [illegible] apparent revolutions of the stars, which Sir Isaac Newton, Humboldt and Herschel thought to be infallible laws?"

—The wife of Col. R. T. Jacobs, of the Western Kentucky Cavalry, a daughter of the late Shepherd H. Benton, died in Louisville on Jan. 2. Her remains were taken to St. Louis for interment. Mrs. Gen. Fremont is now the only surviving daughter of Col. Benton.

—A dry-goods firm in Philadelphia received on Jan. 2 a note inclosing $10, stating that it was the amount of a piece of goods stolen ten years ago. The writer, who said he thought honesty was the best policy, was a long time coming to that conclusion.

—Rev. J. Allen Maxwell, of South Orange, was recently the recipient of a purse of money, a well-stocked larder, the *American Cyclopædia* in sixteen volumes, parts of a service of silver, and various other elegant and useful articles.

—Rev. Everard Kempshall, of Elizabeth, N. J., successor to the late Rev. Dr. Murray, has been presented with $200 by his congregation, in addition to a permanent addition of $200 per annum to his salary.

—It is stated on the authority of a letter from Paris, that the Messrs. Baring, of London, have five million dollars in bonds belonging to citizens of the South, who are either now in Europe or on their way there.

—The death of Basil Duke, brother-in-law of the guerilla Morgan, who was said to have been wounded in the skirmish at Lebanon, lacks confirmation. He has been reported to be killed on two occasions before.

—At the Union State Convention, of Connecticut, held in New-Haven on Jan. 8, which renominated Gov. Buckingham, it was stated that during the last two years he had saved out of his own pocket for the bounty of the soldiers.

—The Cincinnati Commercial [illegible] serious illness of Nicholas Longworth, Esq., of that city, the famous "Catawba" grower. He left city partially, and his condition considered very precarious. He is 80 years of age.

—The Freehol

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, JAN. 18, 1863.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

The price of the NEW-YORK TIMES (Daily) hereafter will be THREE CENTS, except of the Sunday morning edition, which will be FOUR CENTS.

To Mail Subscribers the price will be $3 per annum,—including the Sunday morning edition, it will be $10.

The price of the SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, will be:

One copy one year	$3 00
Three copies one year	5 00
Five copies one year	12 00

The price of the WEEKLY TIMES will be:

One copy one year	$2 00
Three copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	15 00
Twenty copies one year	20 00

Payments invariably in advance.

To any person who will send us a Club of Twenty, the SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES will be sent gratuitously for one year. To any one sending us a Club of Fifty, the DAILY TIMES will be sent gratis for one year. Address

H. J. RAYMOND & Co., Publishers.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 4.

REVENUE STAMPS FOR CHECKS, in sheets for sale at TIMES Counting-Room.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

We have this morning a full confirmation of the report of the victory at Arkansas Post, one hundred miles up the Arkansas River. While an attack was made on the rebel fortifications in front by the gunboats, the land forces debarked two miles below, and marched to their rear, thus forcing a speedy surrender. Six rebel regiments were captured in the earthworks, and two Texas regiments, marching to reinforce the place, being ignorant of its capture, were also captured. A large amount of ammunition and stores were taken. Our loss was not so heavy as at first reported.

We publish this morning a highly interesting batch of the rebel dispatches recently captured by our blockaders off Charleston, being letters of instruction to Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL, and other rebel agents in Europe. The first is a letter from Secretary BENJAMIN, dated in September last, exaggerating all the rebel victories, and summing up the National losses in all the battles up to that time at 350,000 men. The most important portion of the correspondence relates to a movement on the part of the French Consuls at Galveston and Richmond, supposed to have originated in Paris, to induce Texas to secede from the Southern Confederacy, and establish an independent Government. The result of this discovery was an order to MAGRUDER to send the Consul at Galveston to Mexico as soon as possible, and another to the Richmond Consul to leave forthwith. The order with regard to the latter was, however, rescinded. It further appears that the reception awarded by Earl RUSSELL to Mr. Commissioner MASON, at London, is not such as comports with the latter's sense of propriety or with the expectations of the Confederate authorities at Richmond. Mr. MASON is, however, complimented for his self-abnegation in consenting to remain at his post, notwithstanding the annoyance to which he conceives himself subjected by the evident coolness of the British Secretary of Foreign Affairs. The second portion of this correspondence relates to the European operations of the Confederate Treasury and Navy Departments. Mr. MEMMINGER explains the schemes devised for raising money in England by the hypothecation of cotton in the Confederate States. The mode by which that article may be transmitted in British naval vessels from the blockaded ports, to be employed in England for war purchases and payments, receives elucidation at the hands of the Confederate Secretary of the Treasury, while the use to which a portion of the funds is to be put finds explanation in the accompanying correspondence of Mr. MALLORY, the Confederate Secretary of the Navy. The utility of iron-clad vessels and the means by which they are to be protected in England, form the burden of these interesting papers. From these papers we also learn the names of the financial agents of the Southern Confederacy in England, and what persons are ready to fill the military and naval office from Richmond. It may surprise some persons to find out that Mr. GEORGE N. SANDERS is playing an important part in the negotiations looking to the construction of iron-clads in England for the Southern Confederacy. He figures also as the diplomatic courier of the Richmond Government.

A correspondent of the Boston *Commercial Bulletin*, writing from Liverpool under date of Dec. 31, makes some interesting statements regarding the development of the Confederate navy. He says there are now at that port, at LAIRD's establishment, where the *Alabama* was built, three new iron screw steamers, one said to be 3,000 tons, the other two of 1,600 tons each; all very fine specimens, and expected to be formidable vessels and of great speed. The larger ship is reported to be ready for sea, with coals and stores on board, (no armament of course,) and her agents are now shipping a crew of picked men. It is said, in answer to inquiries, that this ship is bound for China; but there is little question that she is bound upon a piratical expedition, and it is hinted that MAURY (now in Liverpool) is to have the command. The two other ships are receiving their machinery, and will not be ready for the present. The same steamer that took the guns, &c., to the *Alabama* was in port, and is likely to be soon employed in a similar service. A party of officers attached to this fleet have appeared in the naval uniforms adopted by the so-called Confederacy, since the news of the battle of Fredericksburgh was received. The same correspondent also confirms the statements recently made regarding the departure of a large fleet of small steamers with cargoes of food and stores destined for the rebels.

The Chattanooga *Rebel* states that MAURY has gone abroad to take command of one of the rebel iron-clads.

A letter received in Boston on Saturday, direct from Newbern, brings the very latest intelligence from that point. It is dated last Saturday morning, Jan. 10, several days later than any previously received. The regular mails were to be interdicted for a short time, and everything indicated a formidable movement in some direction. The fleet of iron-clads was in sight, and siege guns, artillery, shell and fixed ammunition were being put into vessels in large quantities. Our troops were generally in good health.

A letter dated at Falmouth, as long ago as Jan. 3, notices as a significant circumstance the fact that the whole pontoon train, which had been taken to Washington, had again been brought across the river, and encamped in the vicinity of Gen. BURNSIDE's headquarters.

Formal notice is given that hereafter no passes will be issued to persons desirous of visiting FORTRESS MONROE, except to such as may have special business with the army and navy.

Mr. WM. KERNEN has introduced into the Senate of the Mississippi Legislature a preamble and resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill which will provide for the payment of cotton destroyed by order of the Confederate Government.

Col. ADRIAN R. ROOT, of the Ninety-fourth Regiment, who commanded a brigade in the battle of Fredericksburgh, in a letter to his friends in Buffalo, gives an interesting description of that terrible conflict. His brigade broke the enemy's lines at one time and captured several hundred prisoners, and Col. ROOT expresses it as his firm conviction that had this temporary success been vigorously followed up, by giving his force the support which it needed, the heights back of Fredericksburgh would have been carried, beyond a doubt. He also writes, "I believe that the army is as brave, as willing and as hopeful as ever, and that it desires nothing better than a fair battle with the enemy, in the open field."

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

The Senate was not in session yesterday.

The Assembly, after a very excited session, adjourned until Wednesday evening next, the Democratic members having filibustered so as to prevent a vote, as agreed upon, at 12 o'clock. The most disgraceful scenes were enacted in the Assembly Chamber during the proceedings, and threats of personal violence to Mr. CALLICOTT were freely indulged in.

GENERAL NEWS.

Capt. FULTON, of the bark *Parker Cook*, one of the most recent victims to the *Alabama*, has arrived in Philadelphia. His report states that he sailed from Boston for St. Domingo with a cargo which was composed mainly of provisions. Whilst off the Mora Passage, Nov. 30, his vessel was taken by the privateer *Alabama*. The charts and chronometer of the *Parker Cook*, the crew, and also a part of the cargo, were taken on board of the *Alabama*, and the bark was burned. The Captain and crew were detained on board until Dec. 5. When off Cape Maia, fell in with the schooner *Union*, for Jamaica, of and from Baltimore. As her cargo belonged to British subjects, the *Union* was released upon giving a bond for $1,500, and the Captain and crew of the *Parker Cook* were placed on board, and conveyed to Jamaica. Thence Capt. FULTON took passage for Baltimore, leaving the crew in charge of the American Consul. Capt. FULTON left Philadelphia on Friday for his home in Boston. He states that a brother-in-law of JEFF. DAVIS, of the name of POWELL, holds the position of Lieutenant of Marines on board the *Alabama*. When SEMMES comes across the "wrong customer," he changes his tactics, shifts his politics, and stretches his conscience. Capt. FULTON himself was in irons, and experienced all the cruel kindness to be expected under the circumstances.

The entire amount received in Philadelphia by subscription, for the relief of the English operatives, is $30,822 48, of which $1,000 was contributed by the Philadelphia Bank, $170 by members of the Unitarian Church, $392 60 by members of the Church of the Holy Trinity, $71 45 by members of St. Mark's P. E. Church, Frankford, $50 by members of St. Luke's Church, and $20 by boys in the Episcopal Academy. The bark *Achilles*, which has been loaded with flour for the sufferers, was expected to leave for Europe yesterday.

A letter dated Pernambuco, Dec. 12, notes the arrival at that port of the English ship *Cleomerden*, from Calcutta for Demerara, with a cargo of coolies. She put in for aid to suppress a mutiny, which had taken place on board among the coolies, who were discontented at not reaching their destination as soon as they had been led to believe that they would. The vessel sailed after making an addition of thirteen to the number of her crew.

Three hundred and twenty-five members of the Anderson troop, who mutinied and refused to take part in the battle of Murfreesboro, are now confined at Nashville, in a building formerly used as a smoke-house.

Work is rapidly progressing on the iron-clad *Tuscarora*, at the Philadelphia Navy-yard. Although her tonnage will be very heavy, she will carry but four guns. Those, however, will be of the largest calibre.

It is said that when the Louisville and Nashville Railroad is again in running order, Gen. ROSECRANS will insist upon the transportation of the mails by that route as a military necessity, whether the Directors choose to take a contract or not.

The Commencement of the Medical College connected with Yale University took place in New-Haven on Friday evening. Dr. JACKSON BOARDMAN ANDREWS delivered the valedictory, and Prof. HENRY BACOMBE addressed the newly-fledged M. D.'s, of whom eleven were graduates.

The Governor of New-Hampshire has postponed the draft in that State *sine die*. It was to have taken place on the 6th inst.

A train on the Central Road came near meeting with a serious accident at State bridge on Thursday evening. The engine ran into a tree which had fallen across the track, and was thrown down a high embankment into the Boughtonga River. Fortunately the coupling broke, and none of the cars followed. One of the firemen was slightly injured.

The Common Council of Orange, N. J., has rescinded its action by which $20,000 of the bonds issued to stimulate volunteering were virtually repudiated, and thus passes a vote appropriating $40,000 to redeem them—sufficient to cover the whole amount.

In the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday, the jury in the case of JOSEPH TAYLOR, for arson in the third degree, returned with a verdict of "guilty," having remained out all night. The prisoner was remanded for sentence on Saturday next, and the Court adjourned to Monday morning, when the case of JESUS OSAVEZ, indicted for manslaughter, will be tried.

Breadstuffs were in good request on Saturday, at slightly improved prices. An active business was reported in Cotton, which advanced 1c. ℔ lb.; in Whisky, which was quoted up 1c.@2c. ℔ gallon; as also in Wool, Tobacco, Petroleum and Provisions, which were very firm. Groceries were inactive. The Freight market was not very brisk. Other branches of trade presented no really new feature.

The Great "Test Case."

The popular heart is rapidly wearied by an exhausting and indecisive struggle. With the reserved forces of a nation as yet untouched, and its real ability to achieve the purpose with which it set out still beyond question, there yet comes a time, in almost every great struggle, when sheer fatigue and incessancy reduce the war party to a minority, and peace at almost any price would be welcomed.

War is the crucial test of national pluck; especially in a democracy, where the arbiters of war and peace are the very people who in their own persons support the horrors of the one or profit by the other. Nothing short of the most absolute and vital necessity keeps a nation strung to this pitch of endurance for any long time. The result of a contest which is a matter of life and death to one party, but not to the other, is clear from the beginning, if the masculine qualities of the antagonists are at all matched.

Herein lies the hope of the Southern rebels and of their political friends at the North. The result is certainly a matter of life and death to traitors;—can it be made to appear of less moment to us? Their defeat is a moral impossibility, if we are true. Their success is assured, if we can but be wearied into a division or relaxation of purpose. To this end they enjoy the extraordinary advantage of a political, as well as a military footing. They are on both sides—fighting against us in the South and voting against us in the North. Every influence of speech and Press; every agency of monetary, social and political circles; every element of discontent and disaffection that war engenders; all are as open in the loyal States to the Southern as to the Union party, and are at least as skillfully and unscrupulously plied by the former as by the latter.

The consequence is that if this war is, on our part, no more than a war of the highest expediency, if the loyal people can be made to look upon it as anything less than *a vital necessity*, and as act of absolute self-preservation—if, in short, the war is, or is thought to be, for any such object as men *can* give up, then, it needs no prophet to tell us, we shall yet give it up, and ingloriously fail.

Hence the importance of dwelling upon the magnitude of the issue at stake. The only ultimate danger to our cause lies in a possible failure of the people at large to realize all that they are fighting for, before that all is unconsciously and yet irrecoverably surrendered.

A thousand law suits, involving a common principle, are sometimes settled at once by a "test case," and a thousand defendants or plaintiffs thence submit to justice or injustice, as the case may be, without a further struggle.

In a recent public discourse, the expectation was expressed that, even if we fail in the present contest, the Union will have been disrupted at such a cost of treasure and blood as to make impossible any similar attempt in other quarters. It may be that many are disposed to solace such a fear with such a hope. In our judgment there could not be a more profound delusion, or a more fatal snare. "It is the loser pays." All the power and valor wasted by the loser inures to the strength and prestige of the victor, and passes over to his side, like the spoils of a beaten enemy. Success repays all sacrifices, transmutes suffering to glory and crime to heroism. Defeat piles ruin upon loss, agony upon sorrow, despair upon disappointment, and contempt upon the noblest cause. Other States and generations, so far as temptation and encouragement can lead, will assuredly follow in the footsteps of the former, and not in those of the latter.

The war for the Union is the "test case" of American history; its results the precedent that will govern this hemisphere, uncontested for centuries. If we were struggling for a possession, we could afford to lose it; but we are defending a principle—the very principle of coherence and nationality—and to yield it is to yield a life to which there is no hereafter.

We are fighting the decisive battle of the modern epoch. The destiny of North America, for continental unity or continental anarchy, trembles in the balance *of our minds*. Of the opposing principles, one or the other must be *extinguished* by the result of the war. If the rebellion shall be crushed, the gigantic force it has been permitted to put forth will redound to the grandest benefit of mankind, for all hope of successful revolt against the majesty of *Christian Liberty* will have perished with it forever.

And the converse proposition is no less truthful and certain. If this pristine order and enormous strength of the American Union shall prove futile against a first, the discouraged cause will never breast another. Falling from such an effort as this, it must fall too heavily to rise. The wound will be unto death. Mere confederacies of separate, selfish and jealous States, will, at once, virtually have taken the place of a national sovereignty that had so signally and decisively failed to vindicate its high pretensions—no State left poor enough to do it reverence.

Pagan liberty was long since tried and found wanting. Christian liberty is now on trial in its turn. If it shall develop the same inherent weakness of organization, the same preponderance of lawless centrifugal force, the same incapacity for the permanent protection of society—then what form or kind of liberty will be left for man? Let us, if possible, understand our epoch before it becomes irrevocable History. Let us meet our responsibility with so exalted an appreciation, and so invincible a fortitude, that nations and ages shall rise up and call us blessed!

Southern Opinions of the North.

The Richmond *Dispatch* notices the peace propositions which JAMES BROOKS presented with such applause before a convocation of the Democracy of this City some time since, and thereupon breaks forth into the following astonished inquiries: "Are the Northern people all natural-born fools? or are they only stricken with that judicial madness which we are told the gods always inflict upon the victims of their wrath preparatory to their ruin? Can they suppose that the South is as gullless and lily-livered as themselves?"

If these inquiries had been confined to the authors and approvers of the peace propositions, there would be few, North or South, to object to their pertinency. But in their present sweeping shape they show that the *Dispatch* has fallen into an old error, which the Southern leaders have fallen into often before, viz.: that of supposing that BROOKS, VALLANDIGHAM, COX, and men of that kidney, are "the Northern people." We protest against this assumption, as we have done often before. The Northern people hold no such views as those imputed to them by the *Dispatch*, nor can that people be open on any such grounds either to the charge of being "natural-born fools," or of being "gulless and lily-livered."

As we have said, this blunder is an old one for the South. They have time and again accepted the utterances of these few doughfaces at the North as being really the voice of the country. They were told by them, with the utmost confidence, that Illinois would never strike a blow for the principles or institutions of our fathers, but would consent to see them overthrown, and the flag of freedom become only the emblem of human bondage, rather than resist the imperious demands of the South in arms. They were told by these men, and they believed it, that there was no love of principle at the North, no care for anything but the almighty dollar, no patriotism; and they made the miserable blunder of failing to see that those men only proclaimed their own shamelessness and lack of principle, and slandered the people of the North to curry favor with the South.

One would have supposed that the discovery of the terrible mistake which they made in plunging into the rebellion on the strength of these assurances, would at least have saved them from making the same mistake again. But no! The *Dispatch* falls into the same ditch, and because JAMES BROOKS and some of the Democracy of this City display the folly of thinking that they can put out fire with oil, and push back the waves of the ocean with a broom, it charges this folly upon the whole Northern people.

We commend these inquiries of the *Dispatch* to the notice of BROOKS & Co. Is it too much to ask that the next orator in the course of secession lectures now being delivered at the headquarters of the Democratic Union Association in this City, in which these peace propositions were first ventilated, and the last one of which was the diatribe of Sunset Cox against the Puritans, should take them as his text? Let us see what the patriots who there congregate will answer to them. Let us see whether they are indeed, as the *Dispatch* says, "as gullless and lily-livered" that not even the declarations of the same Southern paper, that if they were to fall down in the dust to-morrow, and pray the South to be their masters, the South would spurn them even as slaves, can stir the slow pulsations of their slavery-sodden hearts. Let us see whether those who have shown themselves insensible to the calls of patriotism, who have been willing to see their country's flag dragged in the dust, if only they might regain place and power and pelf, can be roused by any insult, however gross—any opprobrious term, however stinging. We should think that the sneers and insults with which the leaders of the South everywhere have received their intimations of a proposal for peace would teach them something. When we see how little these Southern insults do seem to rouse them, and think that such men have now and then stood forth to represent the North, and have even lately come forward to represent it, we can hardly wonder at the mean opinion which the Southerners have of us. The war has already taught the rebels, however, that we are not all of such degenerate blood.

Gen. Grant and the Jews.

One of the deepest sensations of the war is that produced among the Israelites of this country, by the recent order of Gen. GRANT, excluding them, as a class, from his Military Department. The order, to be sure, was promptly set aside by the President, but the affront to the Israelites, conveyed by its issue, was not so easily effaced. It continues to rankle, and is leading to sharp controversies and bitter feuds in the ranks of the Faithful. It seems that a committee of Jews, in this City, took it upon themselves to *thank* the authorities at Washington for so promptly annulling the odious order of GRANT. Against the conduct of this committee the bulk of the Jews vehemently protest. They say they have no thanks for an act of simple and imperative justice—but grounds for deep and just complaint against the Government, that Gen. GRANT has not been dismissed from the service on account of his unrighteous act. The matter has been made to assume an importance that requires a mention of it in our columns, as constituting an exciting chapter in our current history. We therefore present the order of Gen. GRANT, that the public judgment in the premises may rest on a clear perception of the facts:

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE,
OXFORD, Miss., Dec. 17, 1862.

GENERAL ORDER No. 11.—The Jews, as a class, violating every regulation of trade established by the Treasury Department, also Department orders, are hereby expelled from the Department within twenty-four (24) hours from the receipt of this order by Post Commander.

They will see that all this class of people are furnished with passes and required to leave, and any one returning after such notification will be arrested and held in confinement until an opportunity occurs of sending them out as prisoners, unless furnished with permits from these headquarters.

No pass will be given these people to visit headquarters for the purpose of making personal application for trade permits. By order of

MAJ.-GEN. GRANT.

JOHN B. RAWLINS, A. A. G.

Official—J. LOVELL, Capt. and A. A. G.

It must be admitted that this order is open to severe criticism in more respects than one. The first and mildest objection we see, is its atrocious disregard of the simplest rules of English composition. To be dealt harshly with is bad enough, but to be villified in execrable English is cruel, if not unusual, punishment. But if the execrable English of the general excommunication from GRANT's attractive Department is very objectionable, the mockery of the allusion to special exemptions is utterly unworthy. "*Any one*" (any Jew) "returning" after a notification to leave, *they* will be sent away as prisoners, "unless furnished with permits from these headquarters." But "no pass will be given these people to visit headquarters for the purpose of getting permits." Such is the substantial and almost literal conclusion of GRANT's order. It is mortifying to know that such a jumble of bad writing and worse logic should emanate from the headquarters of a Major-General commanding a Military Department of the United States.

As to the odious principle of Gen. GRANT's order, there can be no doubt whatever. To condemn any religious body, as a class, and by wholesale, is contrary to common sense and common justice—contrary to Republicanism and Christianity. Gen. GRANT may have been misinformed by subordinates of his army, who were swindlers and contrabands. It was desirable that he should be rid of such. But will he say that all the swindlers that beset him are Jews? We are of opinion that there are degrees of rascality developed by the war that might put the most accomplished Shylocks to the blush. We have native talent that can literally "beat the Jews." Gen. GRANT's order has the demerit of stigmatizing a class, without signalizing the criminals. All swindlers are not Jews. All Jews are not swindlers. Gen. GRANT assumes that the reverse of this latter proposition is true, and he expels the Jews, "as a class," from the Department. That carries women and children—women at home and children at the breast. A number of Jewish families that had been quiet, orderly and loyal citizens of the town of Paducah for years, hurriedly packed up their goods, and left their homes, under this cruel order. They had had nothing whatever to do with GRANT or his army, but they belonged to the Jews, "as a class," and were denounced and expelled. Their situation must have revived the history of their unfortunate people during the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, when England, France and Austria successively followed each other in decrees against them of banishment and persecution. And it is a humiliating reflection that after the progress of liberal ideas even in the most despotic countries has restored the Jews to civil and social rights, as members of a common humanity, it remained for the freest Government on earth to witness a momentary revival of the spirit of the mediæval ages.

If we take a merely selfish view of GRANT's treatment of the Jews, it will appear in the highest degree impolitic. Persons "of this class" have come to hold high positions in the leading Governments of Europe, whose good opinions we cannot afford to despise. M. FOULD, of LOUIS NAPOLEON's Cabinet, is a Jew, and his voice might, in the possibilities of things, go far to decide the fate of the American Union. The ROTHSCHILDS wield a power in the financial world that is well-nigh omnipotent to raise or destroy the credit of any nation. We may find it better to have their friendship than enmity.

But, rejecting all such considerations, we rely on the general principles of republican right and justice for the utter reprobation of GRANT's order. Men cannot be condemned and punished as a class, without gross violence to our free institutions. The immediate and peremptory abrogation of GRANT's order by the President saved the Government from a blot, and redeemed us from the disgrace of a military assault upon a people whose equal rights and immunities are as sacred under the Constitution as those of any other sect, class or race.

Stevens' Reply to Dunlop and Others—In or Out of the Union.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I do not suppose I have seen a correct report of the remarks of Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, in reply to Mr. DUNLOP, of Kentucky, and other questioners in Congress. But his statement of the present relation of the seceded States to the Union, as I have read it, seems to me to lack clearness and precision, and to be calculated rather to divide and embarrass his own party and furnish material for declamation to the sympathizers with rebellion, than to silence their sophistical objections. We need a simple and common sense statement of the matter that shall convince and unite at least all honest and loyal-minded men.

To the question put to Mr. STEVENS, "Are those States which have seceded, now *in* or *out* of the Union?" the common sense answer, and the philosophic one is, that they are neither in nor out, but in a very different position—they are simply in a state of rebellion, and by this patent fact have destroyed their former loyal relation to the Union, (which was to be politically in it by their legal rights,) but have not attained to the end of their striving, which is to get *out* of the Union and become a separate nationality. They are thus neither *in* nor *out*, but in rebellion, which is, in political topography, just *nowhere*. They have pulled down their house before building a new one. They have left their homes for a better country, but have not reached *it*—they are somewhere on the journey. They have left in and started for *out*, but have not got there, and probably never will. As States, in the full and proper import of the term, they are neither in nor out of the National Union, any more than is Utah, which is asking to come in, instead of fighting to go out. They are plainly not out of it, as England is or Canada, nor yet in it, as is New-York or Kentucky, or even Western Virginia.

To say that they are out of the Union is to admit the legal right of Secession, that their rebellion destroys the rights of the Union and its claims to their allegiance, and also that their acts of disloyalty and treason could take away from the nation a part of its domain—for in the removal of these States from the Union, when the act shall be fully consummated, they must carry out the geographical States with the civil and extinguish the title of the Union to so much of its territory. But certainly the national territory has not been and never can be thus alienated by acts of rebellion. The soil of Virginia, and of all the South, is now just as much a part of the territory of the nation and under its rightful jurisdiction as ever. But this fact does not make those States still a part of the Union, in any other sense than as geographical districts bearing State names.

The inhabitants of these States bear two relations to the Union, the one as individual subjects, the other as included in that political organization, which is the State civil in distinction from the State geographical. As individual subjects they are still in the Union, whether loyal or disloyal—if traitors, still amenable to its laws, and if loyal, entitled to all the protection the nation can give them. Traitors can go out only by being hung or fleeing the country, and loyal men cannot lose their citizenship by the crimes of their neighbors or the violence of false pretenders. And so any sufficient number of loyal subjects have a claim upon the assistance of the National Government in seeking the restoration of their lost privileges by reorganizing, as soon as may be, a loyal State Government on republican principles in the place of that which has destroyed itself by its crimes.

But if we consider the people within the geographical limits of a State in their collective relation to the Union, regarding them as a republic within a republic, a political body organized under the national Constitution and jurisdiction, a civil State or Government subordinate to the Government of the Union, and participating in the sovereignty of the Union, and participating by its common benefits and privileges, then are these States which have seceded, all of them, rebel States. All their State acts, their ordinances and warlike measures are rebellious. In their State capacity as governments and republics, they all defy the nation, spurn its authority and laws, trample upon its Constitution. Every one of them, by all its official proceedings, is a rebel State, as much as any individual citizen by his deeds can be a rebel subject. And though a State cannot be hung for treason, it is not exempt from penalty, and may readily kill itself. Its loyalty gone, its loyal rights vanish; its life of real being has ended, and nothing but a ghastly abstraction remains. For every State as a political organized whole, when involved in rebellion, loses at once by this fact, its position in the nation and its rights to the benefits and privileges and protection which a true and loyal membership in the National body confers. It has outlawed itself as an organized body of men, by turning all its functions to treasonable ends. As such a rebel State, it is not in any proper sense in the Union, or one of that circle of true and loyal States. Loyalty and treason are perfect opposites and cannot be joined in one, or claim the same rights and protection. A rebel State is out of the Union so far as being deprived of all legal rights under its laws, of all privileges and power, of all authority in law or justice to set limits to the power or action of the National Government, and indeed, of the very right of existence, all of which are constituted upon loyalty and obedience, can put it out. It is out, not by its geographical position, not by successfully establishing its independence, but by self-destruction, by the want of all those rights in the Nation which it has lost.

For, if these States in rebellion, taken as organized bodies of men with their officials and functions, are still in the Union in any sense in which it can rationally be asserted of such a body politic, then we are forced to the strange conclusion that all the seceded States are to-day entitled, by their constitutional rights, without changing their treasonable designs or proceedings at all, without denying their allegiance to the Confederacy or withdrawing their soldiers from its armies, to send a full representation to our Congress, and we have no right to exclude them. And as this delegation must be equal in its rights to any other and acting officially under State instruction, why might we not any day have enacted, over again the shameful farce, so shamefully permitted, when the arch-traitors DAVIS and SLIDELL, and TOOMBS, and MASON, and their compeers, stood boldly in the Halls of Congress, planning treason and threatening rebellion? Why not expect to see a Southern delegation sitting in our National Councils, voting to refuse supplies to carry on the war, perhaps to impeach the President for making war upon his own country, and to appropriate money to the revolted States to aid them in repelling invasion?—a conclusion belonging to the highest order of madness.

We cannot deal with a State as loyal and disloyal at the same time, and we are talking of mere abstractions, devoid of all reality, when we contend for the constitutional rights of these rebel States in the Union still unimpaired and unchanged. *In* the Union, as geographical States, a part of its inalienable territory, and also on the Union, as individual subjects within the national jurisdiction, but out of the Union, as civil organizations now radically perverted and fully given up to treason, the United States is fully authorized to deal with them in great freedom, as the safety and welfare of the Nation may demand. As political bodies they are politically dead, and do not as living governments stand between the national authority and the people. But whenever a sufficient number of loyal subjects shall be found in these rebellious districts to control affairs within the limits of a State or a considerable portion of one, then the question will arise, to be decided by Congress, whether it shall be organized and restored to its position and its exercise of power within the Union upon the basis of its former State constitution unchanged, or upon the same with partial changes, or upon one altogether new—and it will be a matter to be determined simply by reference to the future safety both of the State itself and of the whole country. The only restriction is the constitutional one, that the State government shall be truly Republican—it cannot be monarchical or oligarchical, but must be one of equal rights, and giving each citizen his proper and equal participation in the governing power. But when these States come into the Union again, they must come in on the same conditions upon which new ones are admitted, and not by preferring a claim to their old rights and standing; certainly not, unless a majority of the citizens of a State can show that they have remained loyal, and have simply been surprised or overborne by an unscrupulous faction. What is a loyal State, all of whose citizens and officers are steeped in treason? What loyal individual can demand that the nation respect its existence? It were right, perhaps, if possible, that all his former State rights should be restored—but if he suffers from the crimes of his associates it cannot be helped. If the people of these returning States have learned by experience that they need a different basis of organization, or a new Constitution, they are entitled to have it, if not inconsistent with the National welfare. And if, in the same way, the nation has learned that new safeguards are required, it is entitled to require new conditions of these rebellious States in their restoration; provided always that it makes all the States equal in their privileges.

The enemy whom we fight, then, is not the Union nor a part of it, but a false and treasonable political organization, called a Confederacy—and these rebel States are in that Confederacy, partaking of its privileges, its rights, its powers, its character and its deservings. But the Confederacy is not in the Union, and it is to be hoped never will be. We meet it as an outlawed plunderer, just as we would repel the invasion of a foreign enemy. We fight this murderous usurper, this political rival and pretender, for the maintenance of our National authority and sacred trusts, which the Confederacy seeks to wrest from our grasp, and for the preservation of our territory and subjects, which it seeks to take out from under the jurisdiction of the National Government. Z. B.

The Missouri Legislature.

JEFFERSON CITY, Thursday, Jan. 15.

Mr. BURNELL's resolution sustaining the President's Emancipation Proclamation, offered yesterday, and Mr. ALLEN's substitute, were to-day referred to a Select Committee of seven.

In the Senate, a resolution was adopted that a Select Committee on Emancipation be requested to report what amount of money should be appropriated by Congress to compensate for slaves, provided they shall all be emancipated by an act of the Legislature. The resolution passed, with a view to facilitate Congressional action on the subject.

The Ohio Legislature.

BEN WADE NOMINATED FOR U. S. SENATOR.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Saturday, Jan. 17.

The Republicans met in caucus at Columbus, Ohio, and nominated Ben. WADE for United States senator on the first ballot.

The Twelfth Massachusetts Battery.

BOSTON, Friday, Jan. 16.

A private letter states that sixty horses of the Twelfth Massachusetts Battery died during the passage to Fortress Monroe, on account of rough weather. The vessel conveying the Battery was detained in Boston Harbor two or three days of pleasant weather, waiting a clearance from the Custom House.

THE GALVESTON AFFAIR.

Another Account of the Capture of the City and the Harriet Lane.

The Blowing Up of the Flag-ship Westfield.

A CASE CALLING FOR INVESTIGATION.

Full Particulars from Our Special Correspondent.

GALVESTON BAY, TEXAS, Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1863.

One of the most desperate and at the same time disastrous actions, in the history of the present war, has just taken place at this point, which will cause the patriotic heart of the great North to thrill with horror, when the full particulars of the catastrophe can be ascertained.

I hasten to lay before your readers a short sketch of what I myself saw, leaving them to draw their own conclusions, and, if censure in the case is just, to censure whom they may think necessary.

The propeller *Mary E. Scarborough* left New-Orleans on the 25th ult., loaded with commissary stores for troops that were stationed at Galveston, as well as for the relief of many hundred Texan refugees, who had congregated upon the wharves of Galveston, to receive protection from our gunboats stationed there. She had on board, as passengers, Maj. W. L. Rose and Capt. S. W. Cozzens, of Brig.-Gen. Hamilton's Staff, Military Governor of Texas, who were on their way to Galveston, to represent Gen. Hamilton at that place.

We arrived off Galveston Bar about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of Dec. 31, and after signaling for a pilot, the U. S. flag-ship *Westfield*, W. B. Renshaw, commanding, steamed out, and gave us her pilot, who took us safely over the bar, and navigated us to Bolivar Channel, so called, about one and one-quarter mile distant from the city, at a point near Pelican Island, and abreast of Bolivar Point Light-house.

About two o'clock in the morning a boat came off to the *Scarborough* from the *Westfield*, which was anchored about eighty feet from us, asking for our pilot, the officers of the boat saying that four rebel gunboats were coming down the bay from the direction of Houston, and that the *Westfield*, in getting under way, has unfortunately got fast aground on Pelican Island Bar; still, as the *Harriet Lane*, the *Clifton*, the *Owasco*, and the *Sachem*, were all stationed there, no immediate danger was apprehended from the attack, notwithstanding the unfortunate position of the flag-ship.

The moon, which up to this time had lent its pale rays to enable us to distinguish friend from foe, set, and one of the peculiar fogs so common in this portion of the country having arisen, the morning became intensely dark, so much so, that it was impossible to distinguish anything at the distance of a few rods, with the aid of a powerful glass, even.

About 3½ o'clock, a red and blue light from the *Harriet Lane*, which lay near the upper end of the town for the purpose of commanding the railroad track to Virginia Point, gave warning of an attack upon the town. Up to this time not a sound had been heard save the quick strokes of the powerful engines of the *Westfield*, in their vain endeavors to get her once more afloat. The flagship promptly answered the signal, at the same time signaling for the *Clifton* to come to her assistance. At this moment the boom of four six-pounders was heard from the town, immediately followed by the heavy guns of the *Harriet Lane*, while a bright ball of fire from the bay, speeding upon its errand of destruction toward the *Harriet Lane*, marked the position of the rebel gunboats.

The engagement now became general between the *Lane*, the *Owasco*, the *Sachem* and the rebel gunboats, while from the shore an incessant fire of light artillery and musketry was kept up upon the *Harriet Lane*. The position of the different boats could only be seen by the light from the flashes of the guns, and from the burning shells in the air.

Just at this moment the guns of the *Harriet Lane* ceased entirely, and the *Clifton*, which had all this time been ineffectually endeavoring to extricate the *Westfield* from her unfortunate position, steamed down the channel, and round the island toward the city. When abreast of Fort Point, a battery stationed there opened fire upon her with 24-pounders. She immediately returned the fire with fearful precision, giving volley after volley with a promptness that showed her to be no mean antagonist. After effectually silencing the battery, she proceeded up toward the town. Matters remained in this position until the first faint streaks of morning light were discovered shooting athwart the sky through the *dense fog*, when the *Harriet Lane* was observed between two huge rams, whose decks were piled high with cotton bales, effectually sheltering their crews. At this time from our position all was uncertainty. Not a flag was to be seen flying from any one of our boats, and we could not tell whether the *Lane* had been captured or not. Our doubts were soon dissipated, for as the *Owasco* opened fire upon the three boats so mysteriously situated, a flag of truce was observed upon the *Harriet Lane*. A small boat now left her side containing one of her officers, who informed the *Clifton* that the *Harriet Lane* had been captured by boarding—the two rams having approached from opposite directions, and while she was engaged in repelling the attack upon the town, had poured in upon her decks hundreds of infuriated rebel soldiery, who, drawing their bowie-knives and revolvers, had so effectually and mercilessly used them that out of her crew of 130 men, only one officer and ten men were left alive, and that these had been huddled together upon the quarter deck for massacre whenever the fleet should open fire upon them.

Under this situation of affairs, what was to be done? Capt. Lewis, of the *Clifton*, immediately came off to the flagship in a small boat, and after a brief interview with Commodore Renshaw, returned to the *Clifton*.

The Commodore immediately sent a boat to the *Mary E. Scarborough*, asking of Capt. Wills permission to transfer the men, ship's furniture, personal effects, &c., of the *Westfield* to the *Scarborough*. This was of course granted, and the effects hurriedly transferred, it being apparent that Commodore Renshaw had determined to destroy the flagship rather than see her fall into the rebels' hands.

It was now 10 o'clock in the morning; the crew (and their baggage) of the *Westfield* had been entirely transferred to the *Scarborough* and the *Sachem*, a United States transport lying in the harbor near by. The Commodore's gig, with its crew, was lying alongside of the *Westfield*, while the Commodore, his First Lieutenant and Chief Engineer, had remained on board to make sure of her destruction. Barrels of turpentine had been poured over the decks, the safety valve of her boiler had been chained down, the magazines had been opened, the trains laid, and everything in readiness for the application of the match. The officers of the vessel, save the Commodore, had taken their seats in the gig; the Commodore's tall form was alone seen upon the deck of the ill-fated *Westfield*. The match was applied, when from some unexplained cause, horrible to relate, the forward magazine exploded with a terrific report, instantly destroying the entire forward part of the vessel, and sending high into the air a cloud of dense black smoke, sheets of iron, planks, shells and missiles of every conceivable form and kind.

The scene that ensued beggars description. The Captain of gig was discovered floating, but not a soul to be seen in her. The crew of the first cutter, which had been quietly resting upon their oars near by, had [illegible] Preparations were made for [illegible]

[illegible] the town, and in order to save the lives of the women and children, and in order to show that we were not the aggressors in the unfortunate affair, a flag of truce was sent to the rebel authorities, offering to parole the prisoners taken on the Harriet Lane, if they would allow us to land our women and children. This they refused to do, and we were compelled to take our women and children back on board the vessels, and to keep them there, with all the horrors of a bombardment staring them in the face, and with no place to which to fly for safety. Some of our officers have been very severely criticised for this, but I think unjustly, for they could not land their women and children without the consent of the rebels, and they could not leave them on the vessels, exposed to the fire of our own batteries, without the most imminent danger of their being killed. Most of our officers, too, had their families with them, and they felt the situation as keenly as any others could.

The only remaining obstruction was Vicksburgh. By going immediately down with a small land force, we could with ease have finished the opening of the Mississippi. But strategy or generosity, or something else prevailed, and we did nothing until the enemy had constructed his works. Then Farragut came up from below, and battered away for two weeks, and accomplished nothing; a little later, and the upper river fleet pushed down, and for four weeks pitched their iron compliments into the works of the Confederates. Then, after the iron-clad *Lafayette* has astonished everybody by running through our fleet, the siege of Vicksburgh was raised, and the opening of the Mississippi deferred to a more convenient season.

This is in brief a history of the efforts to open the Mississippi—miserable failures, all of them, and reflecting only discredit upon their authors.

Again we are attempting it, and I will now give you an outline of our proceedings up to the present time.

About two weeks ago Gen. W. T. Sherman arrived at Memphis with his column, which had heretofore followed the right wing of the Army of West Tennessee, under Gen. Grant. One of Sherman's first operations was to seize all the steamboats between Helena and Memphis, and the next to issue orders that on the expedition for the opening of the Mississippi, no newspaper correspondent or other civilian should be allowed; and all steamboat captains and other officers were strictly enjoined, in case any such person were found along with the Sciffin, that he should be turned over to the mates and be required to do duty as a deck hand. "All newspaper men are spies," remarked this discriminating chief, and hence they must, along with cotton speculators and other parasites, be excluded.

The General's success in reading the characters of correspondents seems to have been greater than his ability to exclude them, as this letter and many others from the same point will prove.

The work of getting the transports together was concluded, or nearly so, on Sunday, the 21st, at Memphis. Sunday night Sherman's command was embarked, and the next day steamed down to Helena, and there the additional details of the expedition were completed. With the addition of Gen. Sherman's Division, the column was made up as follows:

First Division, Gen. Morgan L. Smith.
Second Division, Gen. G. W. Morgan.
Third Division, Gen. A. J. Smith.
Fourth Division, Gen. Frank Steele.

These four divisions number about —— thousand men, and include the usual amount of artillery, infantry and cavalry, all brigaded in proper style. Among the brigade commanders are:

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Gen. John M. Thayer.
Gen. David Stuart.
Gen. E. G. Beckwith.
Act. Brig.-Gen. Shelton.
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Liberal supplies of coal, rations, forage and commissary stores of every kind, commensurate with an undertaking like that of opening a river as long and broad as the Mississippi, were placed on board; and then about 3 P. M., Monday, a six-pounder gun from Gen. Steele's steamer, the *Continental*, roared forth the signal of departure. Cables were untied, gangway planks hauled in. The throngs of blue-coats on the decks of the transports tore the air with cheers, other throngs of blue-coats on shore responded with lusty shouts, white handkerchiefs exchanged salutations with other white handkerchiefs waved by white hands on shore, and amidst these and a hundred other surroundings the transport dropped into the river, wheeled slowly into the channel and then shot swiftly southwards.

Longing eyes sought Helena as long as a roof or steeple remained in view; and when these sank below the horizon, we yet caught a glimpse of its locality by a column of smoke that rose high above the wooded bluffs that form the background of the town.

Some of our gallant fellows, turning for distraction, just before starting, had set fire to the house of a citizen of Helena, and by the light of its crackling roof we departed. The only drawback to the illumination was that the house belonged to a Mr. Turner, a brother-in-law of Jake Clemens, of Alabama, an uncompromising Union man, and one who, from the breaking out of the rebellion, had, through many perils, remained firm in his fealty to the old Government. But soldiers will be erratic in their loyalty, and undoubtedly are excusable if, in their demonstrations, they happen to burn the shelter which covers the heads of loyal citizens. Their intense devotion to their country leads such patriots into many things which they undoubtedly consider loyal and praiseworthy, but which, among many others, take the shape of robbery and arson. They rob hen-roosts, smash furniture, insult Jeffersonian women, burn buildings, and reduce the country to a desert—all, of course, from love of the sublime cause for which this nation is now struggling. Ever remembered be such patriots—ever famous be their hen-roost and house-burning deeds of glory!

Of course in a conflict so severe as this, the humanities should not be forgotten, and hence we minister to the cause of freedom by carrying with us a few thousand like the following:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE SOUTHWEST, 1863.
SPECIAL ORDERS, No.—, ——, a colored ——, formerly a slave, having by direction of —— owner been engaged in the rebel service, —— hereby confiscated as being contraband of war, and not being needed in the public service, —— permitted to pass the pickets of this command northward, and —— forever emancipated from a master who permitted —— to assist in an attempt to break up the Government and laws of our country.

By command of Major-Gen. CURTIS.
——, Lieut. and A. D. C.

The fleet and its adjuncts being fairly under weigh, let us follow it down the river. The night of our departure (Monday) we reached Friar's Point, a score of miles or so below Helena.

The next morning, the 22d, the transports left Friar's Point at 4 o'clock, and in regular line pushed down the river. Nothing of importance occurred till about 10 o'clock, when we reached Wood Cottage—a small collection of houses on the Arkansas shore. As we passed we noticed the steamers *War Eagle* and *Fox Phai* tied to the shore, while three regiments were drawn up in line of battle ashore, with skirmishers thrown out in advance, toward a line of woods that stretched parallel with the shore, a mile or so from the bank of the river. To add to the picture, a dozen or fifteen buildings were shooting up dense volumes of smoke and flame, while negroes and white women were running hither and thither in wild confusion.

I have not heard definitely as to the reason of these movements. One well-authenticated report says that we were fired upon by a party of guerrillas, and another equally well-authenticated report has it that the National troops fired the buildings, and that a National force was sent ashore, placed in line of battle, deployed as skirmishers, &c., for the purpose of catching these patriotic incendiaries. Not having all the facts before me, I am unprepared to decide.

The remainder of this day's trip was tame comparatively. The long line of vessels observed their relative positions, and there remained to us nothing but to observe the characteristics of the country on either side of the river. There is a great difference. On the Mississippi shore some plantation after plantation. On the Arkansas shore there was nothing but the wooded shores, broken at long intervals by the miserable hut and minute clearing of some poor white settler. Mississippi is evidently at this point largely ahead of her trans-Mississippi contemporary, but why, I cannot tell, as, seemingly, so far as location is concerned, Arkansas is fully equal to Mississippi. To a stranger there seems no particular difference between the cotton-wood cypress swamps of the eastern shore and the sand-bars and desolation that characterize the other. On both sides there reigned perfect desolation—there was smoke from no chimney, no human form relieved the dull monotony on either shore.

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THE MISSISSIPPI EXPEDITION.

The Movements Preparatory to the Attack on Vicksburgh—Gen. Sherman and the Newspaper Correspondents—Helena—Passes for the Contraband—An Adventure with the Rebels on Shore, &c.

From Our Special Correspondent.

(The following letter has been unaccountably delayed on its way to us, but it will of sufficient interest to warrant its publication.—Ed. Times.)

HELENA'S BEND, La., Thursday, Dec. 25, 1862.

A merry Christmas to all! A queer place, this, to wish a merry Christmas from, and not less peculiar are its surroundings. A warm foggy morning, in which everyone are uncomfortable—miles of steamers extending along the head of the Mississippi, their long black streamers of smoke scarcely visible against the foggy sky, their flags waving damply in the feeble wind—on one shore a low flat bottom, whose fringes of cotton-wood and cypress are scarcely visible through the heavy fog; on the other, a broad irregular stretch of cotton-fields, interspersed with scattered residences, of dirty white, among which are the inevitable square-roofed two-story *house of the planter, and the unpretending white-washed quarters of the negroes*; in the background, a notched and scalloped line of trees looking grayly through the mist; in the foreground, scattered groups of blue-coats, and an immense white cotton-gin, from whose roof roll dense volumes of black smoke, with here and there an edging of fleecy white, while occasionally fierce red flames burst out from the centre, as if anxious to assert their supremacy.

Such is a brief outline of *our* Christmas surroundings. Yours probably are different. Stockings in the chimney, joyous children, swift sleigh-rides, silvery bells, jolly punches, and a good thing generally—these make up your merry Christmas. War interferes with many a pleasant custom, not the least pleasant of which accompanies the advent of Merrie Christmas.

But leaving the pleasant recollections of this memorable day, dwelling with a sigh thoughts of what the dear ones at home are doing—shutting ear to the sublime masses which this morning are swelling up through the arches of cathedrals in the North—calling back imagination from her free flight among the jollities and happinesses of our fright homes—I will give you somewhat relative to the facts by which we are surrounded.

Opening the Mississippi River has long been talked of—the advantages of that river as a highway for commerce have been recognized both before and since the breaking out of this war; its entire possession by the North has long since been regarded as a necessity. To be sure we might long ago have had the river from St. Anthony to the Gulf, but for "strategic" reasons, probably, we didn't care it. There was a time when a shell from a gunboat would have stopped forever all rebel work at Columbus, but fearful of offending the neutrality of Kentucky, and possibly too generous to employ our strength in crushing an inferior foe, we allowed the latter to go on, till Columbus, with rifle-pit, fort, cable and columbiads, rose to the dignity of a second Gibraltar.

We finally obtained Columbus, and then waited until the rebels had finished Number Ten. Twenty-one days after we captured that point, and then, with a generosity unparalleled in the history of warfare, we allowed our "wayward sisters" to finish their defences at Fort Pillow. Then, when they were ready for us, we went at them again, and for many weeks we rained iron upon their devoted heads. Several times we drove them out, but, scorning to take advantage of our success, we allowed them to return, rebuild their damaged parapets, and remount their fallen guns.

Finally, Fort Pillow fell, by its own gravity, and we pushed southward. Preparations were made for [illegible]

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 17.

A large number of officers are in Washington, who have within a few days been ordered to rejoin their respective commands in the Army of the Potomac.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue will shortly send to the Secretary of the Treasury his report of the organization of his Bureau, with estimates of the expenses and receipts to be expected.

THE M'DOWELL CASE.

In the McDowell Court of Inquiry to-day, the record was bantered. Lieut.-Col. Tillson was recalled by Gen. McDowell, to show that the force of the enemy that attacked Gen. King on the evening of the 29th August, was not the same force that had checked Gen. Reynolds in the morning. Col. Tillson states to the effect that while out on a reconnoissance with Gen. McDowell, subsequently to the engagement of Gen. King's division, he ascertained from Gen. Hemenway and Col. Allen, of the Maine Cavalry, the position that the enemy had occupied previous to that engagement, which he judged must have been five or six miles from the Warrenton turnpike. At the time of the engagement he said they approached on what he understood to be the road from Dudley Springs to Haymarket, which neared the Warrenton turnpike at the point of attack.

Capt. Chapman was called by Gen. McDowell, and stated that last Summer the field of wheat that had been protected by Gen. McDowell near the Lacey House, near Falmouth, had been harvested by the Quartermaster of the post, ground at Fredericksburgh for the United States Government, and the flour distributed among the National troops.

The Court adjourned until 11 o'clock on Monday.

PAY OF THE TROOPS.

We hear that some of our troops have received pay up to the 30th of October, a number of the Vermont regiments being thus far ahead, thanks to the efforts of their Paymaster, Maj. Halsey. It is evident that the scarcity of money in the army is due in a measure to the inefficiency of Paymasters, as well as to the emptiness of the Treasury.

SMALL-POX AMONG THE CONTRABANDS.

Over two hundred cases of small-pox are reported at the contraband camp in Fourteenth-street. There is a great neglect of proper sanitation to the comfort and health of the negroes there, from five to fifteen or sixteen being crowded into cabins but twelve feet square.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Surgeon-General has given directions for the selection of a suitable building in Philadelphia, in which to establish a chemical laboratory for the Medical Department of the army. The establishment of such an institution has become absolutely necessary, in view of the many attempts made by gallant contractors to impose worthless articles upon the Government.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The Special Committee on the Pacific Railroad have had several informal meetings, for the purpose of amending and supplying important defects in the bill. The Committee are waiting the attendance of a number of gentlemen who compose the present organization before they mature the bill, which, in the opinion of the Committee, is at present very defective.

ISAAC N. FOWLER.

There is a strong effort being made by the friends of Isaac N. Fowler to induce the President to grant an immunity in his case. A petition has been presented, signed by some of the most influential gentlemen in New-York, and the President has referred the matter to the Attorney-General for his opinion.

NEW THEATRE.

The proprietor of Grover's Theatre has gone to New-York to procure plans for a new theatre, which he proposes to have in active operation here within the next six weeks. A new theatre in Alexandria is also projected by Mr. Grover.

CIRCULAR IN REGARD TO DISCHARGES FROM HOSPITALS.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE, Jan. 14, 1863.

CIRCULAR No. 15—By order of the War Department, the following instructions are promulgated in relevance to discharges from the general hospitals.

1. Under no circumstances have the surgeons in charge of hospitals, or the commanding officers thereof, authority to discharge soldiers.

The final statements and all the discharge papers will be made out under the supervision of the military commander, and signed by him. Vide paragraph 3 of General Orders No. 35, of 1862.

To prevent confusion and misunderstanding hereafter, medical officers in charge of general hospitals are enjoined to be strictly guided by the above instructions.

2. Surgeons in charge of general hospital will, as soon as possible, after the close of each month, transmit to the office a copy of the "statement of the hospital fund," vide paragraph 1,264, General Regulations.

Medical Directors will urge upon the surgeons under their control the importance of prompt obedience to this regulation.

W. A. HAMMOND, Surgeon-General.

TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 17.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Representatives Harris, Horton and Spaulding, a Sub-Committee of Ways and Means, had a long and full conference to-day with the Secretary of the Treasury, relative to the best means to relieve the financial condition of the country. The plan submitted yesterday by Mr. Hooper received the Secretary's indorsement.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

A number of Republican Representatives held a caucus to-night at the Capitol, in relation to public affairs. Those present were cautioned to recover re-

IMPORTANT FROM RIO DE JANEIRO.

The Policy of the New Argentine Government—Consolidation of South American Nationalities—Alliance Against Europe—Gen. Webb's Difficulty with the British Minister—Commercial News.

From Our Own Correspondent.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Monday, Dec. 8, 1862.

The intelligence from the La Plata gives ample proof that the newly organized Government of the Argentine Republic has a programme which it is not afraid to enunciate, and is prepared to support by prompt and vigorous measures. This programme involves the most important, and, if well conducted, the most beneficent results for all the Republics of South America. It may be gathered from a recent dispatch from the pen of Senor Elizalde, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He announces that it is a "principle forming one of the bases of Government policy to promote and consolidate the reconstruction of the nationalities of America, which have been improvidently divided and subjugated." This paragraph indicates to the policy of the Government to reunite to itself the three Republics of Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay, which formerly constituted portions of the Vice-Royalty of La Plata. President Mitre, of Buenos Ayres, is peculiarly qualified to undertake this work. He has passed through a chequered career, having been at different times editor, poet, historian, General and liberal statesman. Exiled from his native country by the late Dictator, Rosas, he served the liberal cause with sword and pen, successively, in Uruguay, Bolivia and Chili. In each of the neighboring Republics there is a strong party favorable to union with Buenos Ayres, and the present is a most opportune moment for promoting this movement, since Bolivia is disorganized by a recent revolution, Paraguay is in a transition state from the recent death of President Lopez, and Uruguay, peacefully inclined by the force of England and France, is eager to acquire protection from such National disgrace.

Three expeditions have been recently dispatched to explore three of the great navigable rivers of the Republic, the Bermejo, Salado and Colorado, for the purpose of introducing steam communication between the several provinces. A company has been formed to explore the mines of the Province of San Juan, and engineers have been engaged for that work. A new "Bank of London and River Plate" has been established; also another bank, with a capital of $600,000, held entirely by resident Scotchmen. The Government, meanwhile, is undertaking to call in all the paper money in circulation, and to nationalize the Bank of Buenos Ayres. Lastly, societies have been formed with the avowed object of promoting *American Alliances* against the aggressions of European Powers.

In Brazil nothing of great importance has transpired. The thirty-eighth birthday of the Emperor was celebrated on the 2d of December, with the usual ceremonies, and a large number of promotions were made in the civil, military and naval services.

A Committee appointed by the Chamber of Deputies to investigate charges of corruption made against officers of the Custom-house here, has made its report, in consequence of which the Collector and more than a hundred subordinate officers and dependents have been dismissed from the service.

The American corvette *Jamestown*, Capt. Faron, arrived here on Dec. 1, and was visited the next day by our Minister, Gen. Webb, who was received with the usual honors. It has been so long since these waters have been ploughed by an American war vessel, that the heart of every American resident here has been rejoiced at the sight of the Star Spangled Banner again floating in this harbor. It is understood that the *Jamestown* will shortly leave for Buenos Ayres, and will call thence to take her place upon the China station.

The misunderstanding before recorded as having occurred between Gen. Webb and Mr. Clemens, the English and American Representatives here, has taken a new turn. It may be remembered that Mr. Clemens ordered his attaché, Mr. Nixon, (a descendant of the Lord Steane) of revolutionary renown,) to break off his friendly intercourse with the family of Gen. Webb, and that Mr. Nixon declined to obey the requisition. Upon this Mr. Clemens ordered him to take passage in the next steamer for Europe, and refused to deliver to him letters which had arrived for him from England, until he should have engaged such passage. Gen. Webb, becoming acquainted with this act of tyranny, addressed Mr. Clemens a letter, which for power of invective, has rarely been equaled, concluding with the statement that if Mr. Nixon's letters were not forwarded to him within five hours, this letter should be published in Rio and in London! The intimation was effective, and the letters were promptly remitted to Mr. Nixon.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Cotton—Round lots for United States, 23 @23 2; round lots for Channel, 23 25@23 3; round lots for North of Europe, 23 40@23 45; round lots for Mediterranean, 23 25@23 35. Shipped during last fortnight, 96,000 bags; of these, United States 65,000 bags, North of Europe 27,000 bags, Mediterranean 27,000 bags.

Arrivals of American Vessels—Nov. 24, ship Erie, from Liverpool; brig Canada, from Baltimore; Nov. 27, bark Lorenzo, from Baltimore; Nov. 28, bark Henrietta, from New-York; Dec. 1, bark Lucanus, from Baltimore; Dec. 3, ship Seven Morris; Dec. 4, bark Westmoreland; Dec. 6, ship Winged Arrow, from Boston; Dec. 7, bark Henry Hill, from New-York; Dec. 8, brig Sprite, from Hong Kong.

In Port Urgent Repair—Ship Golden Cross, from Callao to Antwerp; ship White Falcon, from New-York to San Juan.

Exchange—On London, 27½d.@27¾d.; on Paris, 365@365 rs.; on Hamburg, 300 reals.

Freights—Channel for orders, 55c.@60c.; Antwerp and Hamburg 60c.; London and Liverpool, 60c.; Havre, 75 francs; Constantinople, 65c.@65c.; United States, nominal.

NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Jan. 16.

Gen. Cook, from New-York, arrived here this morning.

The steamboat *Thomas A. Morgan* brought in from Yorktown to-day a rebel cavalryman, who came into the National lines and gave himself up. He says he deserted from Stuart's Cavalry.

A fire broke out, at 10 o'clock last night, on High-street, in Portsmouth, Va. The wind was blowing freshly at the time, and before the flames could be put under, some six or seven dwellings were consumed.

The Common Council Committee—Dispatch from Aldermen Beale.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16, 1863.

Alderman Trevor Parley:

Unable to obtain pass to Portsmouth. Colonel left with Secretary of War, who will send for us when it shall be practicable to fulfill our mission on the Rappahannock. Left Washington yesterday at 5 o'clock. Advise you to continue the Joint Committee on National Affairs, and devise some measure for harbor defense.

F. I. A. BOOLE, Chairman.

Thanks to Gen. Benj. F. Butler.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 17.

In the House to-day a resolution was unanimously passed tendering thanks to Gen. Benj. F. Butler.

Large Fire at Beaver Dam, Wis.

BEAVER DAM, Wis., Friday, Jan. 16.

A fire last night, which originated in MALONE'S grocery-store, consumed seventeen stores and two

MARRIED.

Richmond—Ogle.—On Thursday, Jan. 15, at the residence of her son-in-law, Rev. Wm. R. Ogle, Bishop's Tempter, Bermuda, Mrs. Mary Richmond, widow of Brig. Gen. Richmond; and on the 16th, his daughter, JULIA, wife of Rev. Wm. R. Ogle, and daughter of the late Major Charles S. Tallmadge, U. S. Army.

Swartz—Boyd.—In this city, on Thursday evening, Jan. 15, at the residence of the bride's brother, by Rev. A. H. Barr, McKelvy T. A. Swartz, of Pittsburgh, to Sarah, daughter of Edward Boyd, Esq., all of this City.

DIED.

Rouse.—On Saturday morning, the 17th inst., CATHARINE BALL, relict of the late Nathaniel Rouse, Esq.

The funeral services will take place on Monday afternoon, the 19th inst., at Trinity Church, at 2 o'clock precisely. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend at the Church without further notice.

Chesman.—Suddenly, on Friday, the 16th inst., WILLIAM HENRY CHESMAN, aged 21 years.

The funeral will be held on Monday, 19th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M., at the house of Mr. Henry Fairbulle, No. 28 Morton-st., Brooklyn, L. I. The friends of the deceased are invited to attend without further notice.

Dexter.—Suddenly, in this City, on Friday, ANN, wife of Patrick DEXTER, of the County Wexford, Ireland.

The friends and relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from her late residence, 151 2d-av., on Sunday, the 18th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

Foster.—On Friday, Jan. 16, after a severe illness, Frank Bunnell, aged 11 years, son of Mr. Frank Foster.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, on Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 96 Clinton-st.

Burr.—At the residence of her son, No. 8 Stevens-st., Brooklyn, Mrs. Persis Rose, in the 86th year of her age. Her remains will be taken to Vermont for interment.

Vermont papers please copy.

Spence.—On Thursday, 15th inst., of scarlet fever, MARY ANNA, aged 7 years, 3 months and 7 days; also, on Saturday, 17th inst., FANNY, aged 5 years, 4 months and 18 days, only children of Hezekiah and Anna E. Spencer.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from the residence of their parents, No. 205 Clinton-st., on Monday, the 19th inst., at 1 o'clock P. M.

Thornton.—On Friday evening, Jan. 16, ADELINE, youngest daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Thornton, aged 4 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from the residence of their parents, No. 48 Sterling-st., on Monday, Jan. 19, at 2 o'clock P. M.

Every where Triumphant.
GROVER & BAKER'S
CELEBRATED SEWING MACHINES.
Having won the First Premium at State Fairs last year in
NEW-YORK, ILLINOIS, KENTUCKY,
NEW-JERSEY, MICHIGAN, VIRGINIA,
OHIO, IOWA, VIRGINIA,
INDIANA, MISSOURI, ALABAMA,
NORTH CAROLINA and CONNECTICUT.
Instructions free, by a competent teacher, at the
Office, No. 495 BROADWAY, New-York.

Trusses—MARCH & CO.'S Elastic Gum Truss, Office, No. 2 Vesey-st. (near Astor House, opposite the church). No connection whatever with any other Truss Office or same name. A home attends night.

Ankles—Ankle and Enlarged Legs.
ANKLETS—For ladies, misses and children.
ANKLETS— W. H. SWEENEY,
ANKLETS— No. 297 Canal-st.

Ankles—LADIES' ANKLETS—Every lady wants ANKLETS—in full dress for evening, ANKLETS—morning ANKLETS—gaiter. For sale at MILLINERS, ANKLETS— No. 297 Canal-st.

Blacksmith Solid Forges—Forges to suit the market and pass to suit the

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

A GIGANTIC FRAUD ATTEMPTED

A Band of Rogues Attempt to Swindle the Country People by Counterfeit Advertisements of Goods in this City.

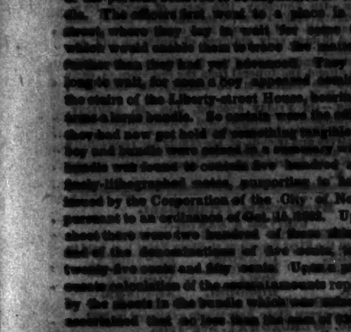
One of the Offenders in Custody—$50,000 of the Spurious Money Seized.

On Friday afternoon, the attention of Mr. Comptroller Bowman, of this City, was called to the fact that an attempt was about being made by certain parties in Liberty and Fulton streets, to defraud the country with a spurious issue of New-York City advertisements; and such was the nature and nature of the information conveyed to him, that he promptly, and with commendable zeal, took measures to have the guilty parties brought to justice, and a citizen made of the northern paper. The Comptroller at once communicated with Capt. Paterson, of the Ninth Precinct, and the latter official, aided by Sergeants Jackson and Gerrish, of the same Ward, yesterday morning began the work—tracing out the den where these bogus bills were made, and the general rendezvous of the persons believed to be implicated in the swindle. The officers first went to a place in Liberty-street, where they lay in wait for some evidence which would enable them to trace the matter a little further than they had yet advanced. They had not long to wait, for soon a boy appeared inside, down the stairs of the Liberty-street House, bearing in his hand a large bundle. So certain were the officers that they had now got hold of something tangible, that the boy and bundle were seized in a summary way. The bundle was found to contain five hundred sheets of finely-lithographed notes, purportion to have been issued by the Corporation of the City of New-York, pursuant to an ordinance of Oct. 15, 1858. Upon each sheet there were two hundred of these obligations, and of the denominations of one cents, five cents, twenty-five cents and fifty cents. Upon a pretty accurate calculation of the aggregate represented by the sheets in the bundle which were seized, it was ascertained that no less than the sum of $50,000 was therein contained, all, or the greater portion of which would, doubtless, have been speedily passed off in different parts of the country, by unsuspecting persons who knew that the credit of the City is good, and who having heard of the fact, that the Common Council passed an ordinance authorizing the issue of scrip, for the liquidation of indebtedness, would take all that they could get, the same as they would bills upon any good bank of this City, in preference to the bills of country banks.

The boy above referred to was quickly apprehended by the officers, and then him they learned that he was sent to convey the bundle from Liberty-street to the house of Messrs. Lane & Coenen, lithographers, No. 112 Fulton-street. The boy further stated that the bills in question had been sent from Fulton-street to Liberty-street, the day before, for the purpose of being colored, that he was then on his way back to the lithographers. The firm of Lane & Coenen was then visited by the officers. There the latter were informed that the notes were printed for a man named Johnson, who had represented to them that the business was all right, and said that they had only done the lithographing for him at they were in the habit of doing for any ordinary customer, without the least suspicion that there was anything wrong. Soon after this stage of the proceedings, Mr. A. Mazzuchelli, of the firm of Lane & Coenen, and was at once taken into custody by the Sergeants under Capt. Dowling. He was taken before a Police Justice at the Tombs and committed for examination.

This attempt to swindle the public is regarded by all the officials to whom knowledge it has come, as one of the most shrewd and daring that has been prosecuted since the days of the grand Ketchum swindle, to the cause of the shipping and through the country, and as the 16 so rapidly that the rascals would not become aware of the failure of the whole scheme was discovered. Fortunately they have been detected by some of New-York's public servants, for all of which the country people have cause to be thankful.

The operations have in quite nearly connected, and in addition to a lithographic work, although, at the first view, it would seem that every thing was done against the rascals, as it was the work, does the contrary. We give below a representation of the twenty-five cent issue:



DEMONETIZATION OF SOILED POSTAGE STAMPS.

About a Million Dollars Redeemed at the New-York Post-office.

Only Two Days Hence for the Redemption.

The redemption of soiled postage stamps, which has been in progress at the New-York Post-office about a month, will positively close on Tuesday afternoon. All those who have any soiled postage stamps must avail themselves of the opportunity to have them redeemed on Monday or Tuesday, as after these stamps will be unknown after those days. Postmaster WHEMAN has given the most liberal construction to his order concerning the redemption, and has not counted in the holidays and Sundays. During the last two days he has defaulted an extra force of clerks to wait upon all applicants, and the line has been extended several times. All who apply on Monday or Tuesday will be attended to, if it takes a force of a hundred clerks. There need, therefore, be no excuse for any one to complain of the Government for not redeeming its postage stamps in this City. All packages under five dollars are redeemed immediately, and all over that sum are remitted for, and when counted and pronounced good, redeemed in turn. Already about a quarter of a million dollars worth of soiled stamps have been redeemed. At least twenty thousand dollars worth of stamps have been rejected as having been tampered with and subsequently washed. Only a day or two since a package of stamps was received, the backs of which were nicely gummed. Minute investigation, however, developed the fact that every stamp in the package had been used for postage, and subsequently washed. Of course the exemplary stamp-washer did not profit by the speculation. Unfortunately there is no punishment for this species of swindling—or attempt at swindling.

Remember—Tuesday is the last day for the redemption of the stamps, and if you want any information on the subject apply to the gentlemanly Cashier at the Post-office.

American Bible Society.

A special meeting of the managers was held at the Bible House on the 15th inst., at 3½ P. M., Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, President of the Society, in the Chair.

Rev. Dr. FERRIS read the 24th Psalm, and offered prayer. The call for the meeting, was read, viz., to consider applications for Scriptures for the use of soldiers in the field, and for the sick and wounded in hospitals. Thirty-one thousand Testaments in various languages were granted for distribution among the armies of the Sentinent, and of the Potomac, and in the hospitals.

The meeting was the of great interest. The war has prepared an extraordinary distribution of the Scriptures, and the constant exchange of the armies, and committee of the service, keep up the demands upon this national and Christian Institution. Nearly 50,000 volumes have been granted for distribution in the field, and for the sick and wounded in hospitals, within the last two years. Over one million of volumes have been distributed by the Society for about twenty years, since the beginning of the war. These volumes, in various languages, have been distributed chiefly through auxiliary Bible Boards in all central points, as at Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Louisville, St. Louis, and through the Christian Commission, whose facilities of access to all the armies of the United States afford them an unparalleled opportunity. With the Present Society can be filled applications for Scriptures to be supplied, which will, if all others have been thinned with the WORD of GOD. Annual testimony for the valuable service of the great distribution is being constantly received at the Bible House.

International Relief Commission.

The Treasurer of the International Relief Commission gives the following ac-

[illegible]

Total.....

Stock sold H. Ball, 75 shares, Bowery.

A. A. LOW, Brokers, No. 21 Nassau-St.

Poem by Geo. H. Boker, Delivered before the Mechanics' Institute.

Anticipated in the Times, Hon. R. Busteed, United States District Attorney, delivered, on Friday night, at Irving Hall, a Poem on Oratory, in the regular course of Lectures before the Mechanics' Institute. The audience, which was a large and fashionable one, paid strict attention to the delivery of the Poem, the concluding stanzas of which we have spaced, and interrupted the quiet manner with repeated applause.

Of the difference between Song and Oratory Mr. Busteed discoursed thus:

"The one thus, Through Song reveals,
And, hovering, with her constant wings,
Above creation's throbbing pulses reels,
Make music in her murmurings;
From Oratory—like a lord
Who bleak the blaze of winter night—
Beneath a tempest's rod is sullied,
And by the breath of Slavery chilled,
Will haste to brighter climes—or die!

To the eloquence of Woman,

"The Heavenly nature of the eye,"

he said a glowing effusion, which deserved, as it received, the warmest plaudits of his hearers. Clothing the speaker introduced the following passage upon the present war, which, filled with the soul of true patriotism, and sounding with the trueth ideas, was greeted with enthusiasm, and said a response in every patriotic breast, within the compass of the hall:

"The continued is trembling with the tramp
Of countless thousands. In the dewy camp
And on the wasted field, the flower of Youth
And loyalty has given to God and Truth.
Thousands, and Hundreds, and the tender, that
Of blood, the charm of home, the gem of health,
Have poured in country and of wealth,
To save the young Republic of the West.
God grant it still upheld them in their glorious strife;
They battle for the mountain, dale and plain,
A million—who treed the street—
This lordly land by Northern race was,
The young Indian sought the setting sun.
Then come the cohorts of Imperial France.
Their proud battalions quailed before the lance
Of the young, warlike, Washington! Then granted
the earth
With the young travail of a nation's birth.
The haughty Briton bowed and bit the sod
A new born country owned the smile of God!
Then come the cohorts of the Cross!
Her starry emblem proudly courts the breeze;
Now streams, Quebec! above thy frowning walls,
Now gaily floats on Monmouth's halls.
Then, still more earnest, and a quantity thrust
Brings down our soaring Eagle in the dust;
His breast was proof against a foreign day,
But treason cannot his unerring heart.
Then, Pulaski, Kosciusko, and Lafayette
Mingled a gold river in the dewy net;
Shall we to forth in weep and to sweep?
Shall we to forth in weep and to sweep?
Is there shall make the patriot warrior bold,
And when our Capitolian, with the sword not lance,
Shall lead our armies and their generals
Then pass while nations, with exponential stamps,
Shall wave our standard over traitors' graves!

Mr. Busteed has won verdicts over the prejudices of packed juries, and vindicated the majesty of the law in behalf of the poor and despised, and decided but this attempt on the platform to establish himself in the front rank of our literary and thinking men.

We are glad to know that the appearance of Mr. Busteed in the lecture-room will hereafter be less of a rarity than heretofore, and that he has been engaged to deliver his Poem on Oratory, before one our large associations at the Cooper Institute.

Travel Affairs.

THE STRANGER HELMET WITHIN A FEW MILES OF [illegible]

The regular navy steamship *Kansas* came near being captured by the *Alabama* a few weeks since, as we learn from a letter of a correspondent on board that vessel. The *Kansas* is the regular supply, or consorts to the Mediterranean squadron, and was on a cruise, when the boats an English vessel which had just been hailed by the Rebel. Of course the steamship got her off as fast as avoid the interview of desirable to Yankees. It is furthermore asserted, that the daring Captain was aware of the Kansas's approach sooner, and expected to capture her. The observer got ready the battle. When our correspondent closed his letter, the Union United States [illegible] left of the formidable fleet which represented our navy in the Straits a few months ago. Our Consuls in some ports of Europe, were said to have notified [illegible]

[illegible]

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And, hovering, with her constant wings,
Above creation's throbbing pulses reels,
Make music in her murmurings;
From Oratory—like a lord
Who bleak the blaze of winter night—
Beneath a tempest's rod is sullied,
And by the breath of Slavery chilled,
Will haste to brighter climes—or die!

To the eloquence of Woman,

"The Heavenly nature of the eye,"

he said a glowing effusion, which deserved, as it received, the warmest plaudits of his hearers. Clothing the speaker introduced the following passage upon the present war, which, filled with the soul of true patriotism, and sounding with the trueth ideas, was greeted with enthusiasm, and said a response in every patriotic breast, within the compass of the hall:

"The continued is trembling with the tramp
Of countless thousands. In the dewy camp
And on the wasted field, the flower of Youth
And loyalty has given to God and Truth.
Thousands, and Hundreds, and the tender, that
Of blood, the charm of home, the gem of health,
Have poured in country and of wealth,
To save the young Republic of the West.
God grant it still upheld them in their glorious strife;
They battle for the mountain, dale and plain,
A million—who treed the street—
This lordly land by Northern race was,
The young Indian sought the setting sun.
Then come the cohorts of Imperial France.
Their proud battalions quailed before the lance
Of the young, warlike, Washington! Then granted
the earth
With the young travail of a nation's birth.
The haughty Briton bowed and bit the sod
A new born country owned the smile of God!
Then come the cohorts of the Cross!
Her starry emblem proudly courts the breeze;
Now streams, Quebec! above thy frowning walls,
Now gaily floats on Monmouth's halls.
Then, still more earnest, and a quantity thrust
Brings down our soaring Eagle in the dust;
His breast was proof against a foreign day,
But treason cannot his unerring heart.
Then, Pulaski, Kosciusko, and Lafayette
Mingled a gold river in the dewy net;
Shall we to forth in weep and to sweep?
Shall we to forth in weep and to sweep?
Is there shall make the patriot warrior bold,
And when our Capitolian, with the sword not lance,
Shall lead our armies and their generals
Then pass while nations, with exponential stamps,
Shall wave our standard over traitors' graves!

Mr. Busteed has won verdicts over the prejudices of packed juries, and vindicated the majesty of the law in behalf of the poor and despised, and decided but this attempt on the platform to establish himself in the front rank of our literary and thinking men.

We are glad to know that the appearance of Mr. Busteed in the lecture-room will hereafter be less of a rarity than heretofore, and that he has been engaged to deliver his Poem on Oratory, before one our large associations at the Cooper Institute.

Travel Affairs.

THE STRANGER HELMET WITHIN A FEW MILES OF [illegible]

The regular navy steamship *Kansas* came near being captured by the *Alabama* a few weeks since, as we learn from a letter of a correspondent on board that vessel. The *Kansas* is the regular supply, or consorts to the Mediterranean squadron, and was on a cruise, when the boats an English vessel which had just been hailed by the Rebel. Of course the steamship got her off as fast as avoid the interview of desirable to Yankees. It is furthermore asserted, that the daring Captain was aware of the Kansas's approach sooner, and expected to capture her. The observer got ready the battle. When our correspondent closed his letter, the Union United States [illegible] left of the formidable fleet which represented our navy in the Straits a few months ago. Our Consuls in some ports of Europe, were said to have notified [illegible]

[illegible]

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

ARREST OF A HOTEL POISER.—A very highly important arrest was made on Friday by Detectives McCole, Seymour and Kane, in the person of CHARLES FOX, an extensive operator, who for the last series of years has eluded the vigilance of the authorities. FOX, who is an Englishman, was arrested at Stapleton, Richmond County, on suspicion of having been concerned in two forgeries, one on the 4th of September, 1862, for $4,100; and one on the 6th of September, 1862, for $4,700, the same purporting to be checks drawn by F. F. LAMB, a banker of No. 57 Wall-street, on the Bank of North America. The one drawn on the 4th of September was certified at the Bank of North America and paid at the Greenwich Bank. The second forgery was not so successful. It was presented at the Seventh Ward Bank and Broadway Bank, and refused at both places. It afterwards turned up at the North River Bank, where it was detained, and a certificate of deposit taken for it. This certificate of deposit was taken to Chicago and negotiated, and afterwards came back to the North River Bank for payment. From certain information received by the officers, suspicion rested upon FOX as being the guilty party, and they immediately went upon his track. Charlie Bowen, of Brooklyn County, affected the officers such facilities as to render the task of arresting FOX a comparatively easy one, and he was, on Friday evening, brought to this City, and locked up. The prisoner is well known to the officers, and has for several years been pursued his practices for a series of years. He was taken into custody arrest a year since, on charge of presenting a forged check at the Bank of the Republic for $1,800. He is supposed to have been concerned in a forgery upon the Newark City Bank on the 17th inst., for the sum of $2,207, and upon the Mechanics' Bank of Newark, for $1,600, and upon the State Bank at Newark for $2,400, all of which were paid in good money. Fox denies the charge of being concerned in the forgery, and says he will prove that he was then in Philadelphia. He will be taken before the Police Justice Connolly yesterday morning for examination.

AN OUTRAGEOUS ASSAULT UPON POLICEMEN—THE OFFENDER RESCUED BY CITIZENS—ESCAPE OF THE OFFENDER.—At an early hour on Friday morning Officers FOWLER and DUNCAN, of the Fourteenth Precinct, were patrolling their beat, when their attention was attracted to a place called the Gem, corner of Crosby and Houston streets. Upon going to the place they found a man engaged in abusing a woman in a most shameful manner. When they attempted to take the man into custody, a gang of some dozen of his villainous confederates made an attack upon the policemen, and beat, and bruised them with clubs, stones, and slung shotted, in a very severe manner. But for the assistance of HARRY HILL, keeper of a saloon in Houston-street, it is believed that the officers would have been killed by their assailants. The Policemen were so badly beaten as to be unable to follow the rascals, and consequently they made good their escape.

FATAL STAGE ACCIDENT.—An inquest was held on Friday at the New-York Hospital, upon the body of MARTIN LEWIS, a native of Scotland, aged 40 years. The deceased was accidentally run over by a stage near the corner of Greenwich and Cortlandt streets, on the 20th of December last, by which she sustained a compound fracture of the right leg, and injuries from which she died on that day, on Thursday night.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—About 4 o'clock yesterday morning, a man named Robert Wagner, residing in Second-avenue, near Sixty-fifth-street, while attempting to cross the track of the Harlem Railroad, in Fourth-avenue, was struck by a locomotive and instantly killed. The deceased has left a wife and three children. The Coroner was notified, and will hold an inquest today.

KILLED BY A FALL.—MICHAEL DONOVAN, aged 48 years, a native of Ireland, accidentally fell down three flights of stairs at No. 37 Pitt-street, yesterday, receiving injuries from the effects of which he died yesterday at the New-York Hospital. Coroner KELSEY held the inquest in each of the above cases.

LAW REPORTS.

Claims Against the City—Of Whatever Nature, they Must be Presented to the Comptroller, and Relief Demanded Before Action is Commenced.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—GENERAL TERM.

Before Judges Daly and Hilton.

William Russell vs. The Mayor et al.—The plaintiff, a painter by trade, and who, in his complaint, alleged that he supported his family by his daily earnings, on the 20th of June, 1858, fell into an cellarway in front of the premises No. 110 Friendstreet, which, as he alleged, was carelessly left so insecure that stepping upon the curb it revolved, and much damaged and bruised his leg, and caused his foot to slip into the hole, thus prostrating him. He contended to have been much injured, and accordingly brought his action for relief.

The answer of the defendants, among other defences, set up that the plaintiff had not demanded relief of the Comptroller before commencing his action, as provided for by section 2 of the act relating to actions, legal proceedings and claims against the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New-York, passed April 14, 1858.

As the plaintiff did not allege in his complaint that he had submitted his claim to the Comptroller before commencing his action, (commenced in October, 1859,) motion was made on the trial that the complaint be dismissed. That motion was denied, and the case given to the jury, who rendered a verdict for the plaintiff, for $350, in addition to which the bill of costs and disbursements in the case made the judgment against the defendants $1461 24.

Appeal was taken by the defendants to this branch of the Court.

In the opinion now rendered on the appeal, per Hilton, J., the Court held that this provision of the statute in effect provides a new or additional rule of pleading in all actions against the defendants, requiring the plaintiff in his complaint in addition to stating his cause of action, to allege, and if controverted, to prove at the trial, that he has presented his claim to the Comptroller and its payment or adjustment had been neglected or refused. That as this provision is obviously for the benefit of the defendants, and to save them from unnecessary expense in respect to claims which would be paid or adjusted if brought to their notice, and a reasonable time given for their examination, it followed that they may waive it if they choose so to do, and as the demurrer of the allegation would constitute a valid defence, it also follows that if they did so take advantage of it by their answer, they should be regarded as having expressly waived it.

That as the defendants did set up in their answer the distinct ground of defence, (as provided in sec. 149 of the Code,) the plaintiff went to trial with knowledge that the condition alluded to in the complaint was not fulfilled, and that the objection was taken on the motion to dismiss the complaint. The fact that the presiding Judge permitted the case to go to the jury, who rendered a verdict for the plaintiff, could not bar him, as he contended he exhausted rights by the erroneous decision against the defendants, who had in no way waived their objection, but, on the contrary, had presented it in a very proper manner and at the 22 time. The fact that the claim of the plaintiff, if it was such, was of a character which the Comptroller would not have been authorized to adjust had it been presented in the manner prescribed, was contended by the counsel for the defendants, in the complaint, nor could it in any manner affect the case. The statute on this point was intended simply to facilitate claims of every nature and description.

For these reasons the Court ordered the judgment reversed and the complaint dismissed, with costs to the defendants.

A. K. Hadley, for plaintiff; H. H. Anderson, for Corporation.

SURROGATE'S COURT.

Before Surrogate Tucker.

Charitable Bequests.—The will of Louisa Griswold, now admitted to probate, leaves $500 to the Orphans' Home of the Reformed Episcopal Church of the City; to the House of Industry, $200; to the School Department of the House of Industry, $200; to the Society for the Relief of the Destitute Children of Seamen; $500; to the Ladies' Department, $500, and portion of her books to the Women's Library. The will of Anthony Tiemann, now admitted to probate, leaves $500 to the First German Methodist Episcopal

[illegible]

Total of 62 [illegible]

[illegible]

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

Before Justice Ingraham.

Donovan vs. McMullen et al.—Judgment ordered.

Wright vs. Gray.—Motion granted, with costs.

Whitcomb vs. Hungerford.—Motion granted, with two costs to abide event.

SUPERIOR COURT—GENERAL TERM.

Before Judges Sutherland and Rosworth.

Sanderson vs. Stowell.—Judgment affirmed, with costs. Opinion by Sutherland.

Tuttle vs. Robinson & Bernhard.—Judgment affirmed, with costs. Opinion by Rosworth.

Forwood vs. Explorer.—Judgment and order affirmed, with costs. Opinion by Rosworth.

SPECIAL TERM.

Before Justice Monell.

Mott vs. Ann Hudson Rose Retreat Company.—Motion granted.

Hemmington vs. Chafin et al.—Case settled.

Perry vs. Brice.—Motion denied, memorandum of decision with clerk.

Before Justice Mason.

Parkes vs. Sass.—Motion granted, with $7 costs to abide the event.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange.....JAN. 17, 1863.

$200 U. S. 1s '81, Con...	96⅝	400	Brance'k O'yl. Co.	[illegible]
1,000 do.....	[illegible]	50	Pac. Mail S. Co...	[illegible]
25,000 do.....	96⅝	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	96⅝	100	do.....	[illegible]
6,000 U. S. 6s '67, Reg.	[illegible]	50	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 do.....	[illegible]	50	do.....	[illegible]
8,000 U. S. Exp. 7-30 b.	100⅛	50 N. Y. Cen. R.	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	100	50	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	100	200	Hudson Riv. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Tenn. St. 6s '90.	67	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	66	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	66⅛	200	Harlem R.	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	66	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Bal. St. 6s W.L.	62⅛	100	U. Cen.	[illegible]
12,000 Cal. St. 6s.....	95	200	Harlem R. Pref.	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	95	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Cal. State 7s.....	102	100	do.....	[illegible]
50 do.....	102	100	Hon. R. Wor. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Erie Cth Mt. Bds.	100	100	Reading R.	[illegible]
5,000 Mich. Cen. 8s Con.	99	200	Mich. Cen. R.	[illegible]
1st M. S. F. Bs	100	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 Ill. Cen. R. Bds.	100	200	M. S. & N. I. R.	[illegible]
5,000 C. & A. C. & Pac. Rs.	123	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	123⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Mich. St. 6s 1st M.	100	200	do.....	[illegible]
17,000 Mich. So. S. F.	113	100	do.....	[illegible]
14,000 Ill. Cen. R. Bds.	100	100	M. S. & N. I. G. S.	[illegible]
10,000 Al. & T. H. 1st M. pt.	75⅛	100	Ill. Cen. R. Scrip	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	70	100	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	70	100	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	69⅛	200	Col. & Cin. R.	[illegible]
20,000 do.....	69	100	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 C. & N. W. 1st M.	41	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	130	41	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	40⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Tol. & W. 1st M.	102⅛	1000	Clev. & Tol. R.	97
5,000 do.....	102⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 Tol. & W. 1s. R.	102	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Mil. & P. Ext. Cm.	110	100	do.....	[illegible]
4,000 do.....	110	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 P. F. W. & C. M. M.	73	200	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 do.....	73⅛	400	Chic. & R. I. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Chic. & N. W. Sds	80	100	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 Ch. & Pitts. 6th m.	75	1000	do.....	[illegible]
2,000 do.....	75	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Mil. & Mo. 1. G.	69	100	do.....	[illegible]
25 Bank of Commerce	91	400	Chic. R. & Q. R.	[illegible]
5 Metropolitan Bank	107	100	do.....	[illegible]
20,000 Ann. Gold.....	147	100	Mil. & Pr. Du Ch. R.	67
20,000 do.....	147⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
110,000 do.....	147⅛	500	Pitts. Ft. W. & Chi. R.	67
20,000 do.....	147⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
40,000 do.....	147⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	147⅛	100	Canton Company	39
200 do.....	147⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
11 Del. & Hud. Ca. Co.	135⅛	50	do.....	[illegible]
25 Penn. Coal Co.....	122	50	do.....	[illegible]
100 Cam. Coal Pref.....	35	100	Alt. & T. H. R.	[illegible]
100 do.....	35⅛	15	do.....	[illegible]
100 do.....	35⅛	100	Alt. & T. H. Pf.	60
100 Chic. & Alton R.	59			

SECOND BOARD.

20,000 U. S. 6s '81, Con.	96⅝	50	Pacific M. S. Co.	[illegible]
15,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Reg.	96	200	Cumb. Coal Pref.	35
45,000 Treas. 7-3-10 b.	97	50	Pac. Mail S. Co.	[illegible]
Notes.....	102	100	do.....	[illegible]
2,000 Mo. Internal Im.	65	100	Erie R. Pref.	[illegible]
5,000 N. B. Ch. 1 yr. C.	99⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
20,000 do.....	99⅛	50	do.....	[illegible]
20,000 do.....	99⅛	100	Erie Railway	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	99⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 U. S. 6s Tyr. C.	99⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
11,000 U. S. 6s, Tyr. C.	99⅛	200	Erie Railway	75
1,000 do.....	99⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
20,000 U. S. 5s '67	99	200	do.....	[illegible]
20,000 do.....	99	100	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 Ohio St. 6s, '81	115⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Ill. Cen. R. Bds.	100	100	Erie Railway Pref.	[illegible]
1,000 Ill. Cen. Rs. '63	100⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 Ill. Cen. Rs. '77	100	50	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Ill. Cen. Rs. '63	100	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	100⅛	200	Hudson Riv. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Tenn. St. 6s '90.	67	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	66	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	66⅛	200	Harlem R.	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	66	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Bal. St. 6s W.L.	62⅛	100	U. Cen.	[illegible]
12,000 Cal. St. 6s.....	95	200	Harlem R. Pref.	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	95	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Cal. State 7s.....	102	100	do.....	[illegible]
50 do.....	102	100	Hon. R. Wor. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Erie Cth Mt. Bds.	100	100	Reading R.	[illegible]
5,000 Mich. Cen. 8s Con.	99	200	Mich. Cen. R.	[illegible]
1st M. S. F. Bs	100	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 Ill. Cen. R. Bds.	100	200	M. S. & N. I. R.	[illegible]
5,000 C. & A. C. & Pac. Rs.	123	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	123⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Mich. St. 6s 1st M.	100	200	do.....	[illegible]
17,000 Mich. So. S. F.	113	100	do.....	[illegible]
14,000 Ill. Cen. R. Bds.	100	100	M. S. & N. I. G. S.	[illegible]
10,000 Al. & T. H. 1st M. pt.	75⅛	100	Ill. Cen. R. Scrip	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	70	100	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	70	100	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	69⅛	200	Col. & Cin. R.	[illegible]
20,000 do.....	69	100	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 C. & N. W. 1st M.	41	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	130	41	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 do.....	40⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Tol. & W. 1st M.	102⅛	1000	Clev. & Tol. R.	97
5,000 do.....	102⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 Tol. & W. 1s. R.	102	200	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Mil. & P. Ext. Cm.	110	100	do.....	[illegible]
4,000 do.....	110	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 P. F. W. & C. M. M.	73	200	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 do.....	73⅛	400	Chic. & R. I. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Chic. & N. W. Sds	80	100	do.....	[illegible]
1,000 Ch. & Pitts. 6th m.	75	1000	do.....	[illegible]
2,000 do.....	75	100	do.....	[illegible]
5,000 Mil. & Mo. 1. G.	69	100	do.....	[illegible]
25 Bank of Commerce	91	400	Chic. R. & Q. R.	[illegible]
5 Metropolitan Bank	107	100	do.....	[illegible]
20,000 Ann. Gold.....	147	100	Mil. & Pr. Du Ch. R.	67
20,000 do.....	147⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
110,000 do.....	147⅛	500	Pitts. Ft. W. & Chi. R.	67
20,000 do.....	147⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
40,000 do.....	147⅛	200	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	147⅛	100	Canton Company	39
100 Canton Company	39⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
200 do.....	39	50	do.....	[illegible]
11 Del. & Hud. Ca. Co.	135⅛	50	do.....	[illegible]
25 Penn. Coal Co.....	122	50	do.....	[illegible]
100 Cam. Coal Pref.....	35	100	Alt. & T. H. R.	[illegible]
100 do.....	35⅛	15	do.....	[illegible]
100 do.....	35⅛	100	Alt. & T. H. Pf.	60
100 Chic. & Alton R.	59			

PUBLIC BOARD—1 P. M.

$25,000 U. S. 6s '81, Con.	96⅝	200	Hudson R. R.	[illegible]
10,000 Treas. 7-3-10 b.	97	100	do.....	[illegible]
Notes.....	102	200	Reading R.	[illegible]
10,000 Amer. Gold.....	146⅞	100	M. S. & N. I. R.	[illegible]
150,000 do.....	146⅞	200	do.....	[illegible]
720,000 U. S. 5-20 Nts	142⅞	200	Galena & Chi.	[illegible]
20,000 do.....	bb 142⅞	50	do.....	[illegible]
10,000 do.....	142⅞	300	Clev. & Toledo R.	[illegible]
100 Bonnet, Clay & Co.	12	100	Chi. & R. I. R.	[illegible]
250 N. Y. Cen. R.	117⅛	100	do.....	[illegible]
100 Erie Railway	74⅞	200	do.....	[illegible]
100 do.....	74⅞	200	do.....	[illegible]
1100 do.....	74⅞	200	do.....	[illegible]
100 do.....	74⅞	100	do.....	[illegible]
100 Erie R. Pref.....	104⅛	100	Mil. & Pr. Du Ch. R.	[illegible]
25 Hud. R. R.....	89⅛	100	Pitts. Ft. W. & C.	[illegible]
100 do.....	89⅛	50	T. Haute & Alt. R.	[illegible]

SATURDAY, Jan. 17—P. M.

There was a strong market for Stocks today, with a large speculative business in the Railway Shares, generally at advanced figures on the buoyant market of last night. The price of Gold Coin opened at 147, went up to 147⅞@⅞, again fell back to 147, and finally closed at—⅞ cent. There was much excitement in the market generally. At one time Toledo Shares sold largely at 97 ⅞ cent, as against 86⅞ on Thursday, and Erie at 75½@75¾ as against 72¾@¾ on Friday. Galena and Rock Island moved up in about the same proportion as Erie, and we did several other of the Western Shares of more recent introduction to the dealings of the Street.

At the 4 o'clock Public Board the following prices were made, as compared with last night, the market closing generally steady, and on some of the Railways firm at the prices:

	Bid.	Ask.		Bid.	Ask.
Gold Coin.....	146⅞	146⅞	Harlem.....	34⅞	35⅞
U. S. 6s, 1881.....	96⅞	96⅞	Harlem Pref.....	72	73
Tennessee.....	66⅞	67⅞	Mich. Central.....	85⅞	86⅞
Missouri.....	61⅞	63⅞	Mich. Southern.....	51⅞	52⅞
N. Y. Central.....	117⅞	117⅞	Illinois Central.....	94⅞	[illegible]
Erie.....	74⅞	74⅞	Pittsburgh.....	65⅞	67⅞
Erie Preferred.....	103⅞	104⅞	Galena.....	90⅞	91⅞
Hudson R. Rail.....	89⅞	90⅞	Rock Island.....	90	91⅞
Toledo.....	95⅞	97⅞	Pacific Mail.....	102	103

The following are the bids to-day for the City Bank Shares:

New-York.....	105

CORPORATION NOTICE.—PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots, improved or unimproved lands situated thereby, that the following assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors, for examination by all persons interested, viz.: For laying crosswalks on Ninth-avenue, between Fifty-third and Sixty-third streets. The limits embraced by such assessment include all the several houses and lots of land, and other real estate, fronting on said avenue, and extending from the middle of Ninth-avenue to the middle of the blocks next adjoining on both sides of said avenue, between Fifty-third and Sixty-fourth streets, and both sides of the Fifty-sixth street, from and to points distant half way between Ninth-avenue and adjoining avenues, and also all and singular the premises and property included in said Ninth-avenue.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are hereby notified to present their objections in writing to the undersigned, at their office, No. 15 Chambers-street, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

CHAS. McNEILL,
JACOB P. OAKLEY, } Board of Assessors.
WM. A. DOOLEY,
Office, Board of Assessors,
New-York, Jan. 16, 1863.

CORPORATION NOTICE.—PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots, improved or unimproved lands situated thereby, that the following assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors, for examination by all persons interested, viz.: For laying crosswalks on Ninth-avenue, between Fifty-third and Sixty-third streets. The limits embraced by such assessment include all the several houses and lots of land, and other real estate, fronting on said avenue, and extending from the middle of Ninth-avenue to the middle of the blocks next adjoining on both sides of said avenue, between Fifty-third and Sixty-fourth streets, and both sides of the Fifty-sixth street, from and to points distant half way between Ninth-avenue and adjoining avenues, and also all and singular the premises and property included in said Ninth-avenue.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are hereby notified to present their objections in writing to the undersigned, at their office, No. 15 Chambers-street, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

CHAS. McNEILL,
JACOB P. OAKLEY, } Board of Assessors.
WM. A. DOOLEY,
Office, Board of Assessors,
New-York, Jan. 16, 1863.

THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT of the Board of Aldermen will meet every WEDNESDAY at 2 o'clock P. M., in Room No. 7, City Hall, to hear parties interested in any matter before the Committee.

ALEX. FRASER,
WILLIAM WALSH,
Committee on Fire Department.

PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS of the Act of Legislature, the Stockholders of the New-York Theatre Fund Orphan Asylum Company report that at their annual meeting held in this City, Jan. 12, 1863, the Stock represented by the Stockholders of said Company, was Five Hundred and Ninety-one, the whole number paid in on the stock of the Company is Four Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Dollars.

H. PRATT, President.
New-York, Jan. 17, 1863.

PROPOSALS.

ARMY SUPPLIES.

Office of Army Clothing and Equipage, No. 401 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Jan. 15, 1863.

Sealed Proposals will be received at this office until 12 o'clock M. on WEDNESDAY, the 21st inst., for Capsule Ipecac, by contract, at the depots of Army Clothing and Equipage in this City.

Will be required and filled:
Second Quarter.
Common Ipecac.
Will be required and filled:
Hospital and Fight and Fine.
Common Ipecac.
Samples can be seen at the quartermaster's office, and it is subject to inspection by proper inspectors. Bidders will state how many they wish to furnish, and the shortest possible time in which certain portions of the quantity can be delivered. A proper guarantee must accompany the proposals.

The privilege of rejecting any portion or the whole of the bids, is hereby reserved for the interests of the public service, and the lowest bidder will be preferred.

Proposals should be indorsed "Proposals for Sundries Trade," and addressed to

Lieut.-Col. D. H. VINTON, D. Q. M. General.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned as Merchants and Commission Agents at Liverpool, in the County of Lancaster, under the firm of SCITT, COURBOUGH & CO., and at New-York, in the City of New-York, under the firm of JOHN F. SCITT & CO., is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

JOSEPH SCITT,
WM. RAY COURBOUGH.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing under the name of W. YOUNG & CO., is dissolved by mutual consent. The business will be carried on by the undersigned, who have formed a copartnership for the term of three years, under the name of Imperial Clothing Rooms, under the same style of firm.

WM. YOUNG,
JOHN H. SIEGRIST.
New-York, Jan. 1, 1863. EZRA F. COMSTOCK.

MESSRS. LEWIS & STEBBINS, HAVING withdrawn, in our business from this date, THEY WILL in future be carried on under the name of SAMUEL STEBBINS & CO.

SAMUEL STEBBINS.
New-York, Jan. 7, 1863.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing under the firm of Somers & Hawes, is this day dissolved by limitation. GEO. F. HAWES.
New-York, Jan. 16, 1863. W. M. HUND.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

LIQUORS, WINE FOR SALE.—THE STOCK, business, good will and fixtures of a wine and liquor store, for the term of five years, or a portion of the premises, to be let. Apply to the owner, on the premises, No. 1 Cortlandt-st., N. Y.

FOR SALE AT PROVIDENCE, R. I., ON account of Executors for Europe, a well-established and thoroughly-appointed Oyster Saloon, including rooms and cellars, in the best part of the City. A very profitable business. Address HUGH CHARASHOL, No. 10 Westminster-st., Providence, R. I.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES

FIVE VALUABLE HORSES FOR SALE.—One white dapple Horse (Knight); weight 1,400 pounds, 10 years old; 16 hands high; is perfectly kind, and will work anywhere. One black horse (Bill M. Lewis); black, 7 years old; 16 hands high; weight 1,200 pounds; perfectly kind; will work anywhere. One black horse (Bill Mc); black, 7 years old; 16 hands high; weight 1,200 pounds; perfectly kind; will work anywhere. One black horse (Bill); black, 7 years old; 16 hands high; weight 1,200 pounds; perfectly kind; will work anywhere. One black horse (Bill); black, 7 years old; 16 hands high; weight 1,200 pounds; perfectly kind; will work anywhere. Also, a black horse

INTERCEPTED REBEL DISPATCHES

Correspondence between Secretary Benjamin and Messrs. Mason and Slidell.

[CONFIDENTIAL.] EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, AUSTIN, TEXAS, Sept. 9, 1862.

Sir: Your communication of 10th ultimo is before me, and contents duly noted.

In answer to your first interrogatory, permit me to say that the annexation of Texas to the United States was a good political measure.

As to your second question, I answer most emphatically that "the act of disunion out of the jurisdiction of the State of Texas to the Southern States was a good and proper political step."

In reply to your third inquiry, I have to say "the re-establishment of the old Republic of Texas will not be beneficial to our beloved adopted country."

Texas has linked her fate with that of her sisters of the South. She will be true, steadfast and victorious. I have the honor to be,

Yours very respectfully, F. R. LUBBOCK.

True copy of the original.
JAMES PAUL, Private Secretary.

(B) RICHMOND, Oct. 13, 1862.

His Excellency Jefferson Davis, President, &c.:

SIR: On to-day M. TASSOUILLE, French Vice-Consul at Richmond, sought an introduction to me in the Senate chamber, and stated that he desired to obtain from me certain statistical information in regard to Texas. I told him that I did not then have the time to give him the desired information, but if he would call at my room I would take pleasure in giving him any information which I possessed. He promised to call this evening, which he did, and has just left my room. I deem it proper to give you the substance of the conversation between us, as it had a connection with the subject matter of the correspondence between the Governor of Texas and French Consular Agent at Galveston, of which you advised Gen. WEBB and myself a few days since.

After I had furnished him with information in regard to the area, population, debt, taxes and agricultural productive capacity of Texas, he remarked that the resources of the State were magnificent, and capable of supporting a population of such adjacent people, and then asked me *whether I thought it would be in the interest of the State to assume an independent attitude.* I told him that the people of Texas, being mostly emigrants from the old Southern States, were strongly attached to these States, and to our Federative system of Government, which [illegible] at some length explained to him. I told him that they never could have been induced to secede from the United States but to preserve that form of Government which was in danger of being destroyed. I further stated to him that not only the affections and sympathies, but also the interests of the people of Texas bound them to the States of the Confederacy; that their institutions, parentage, and agricultural products were the same, and that mutual safety required fraternal amount them, which could only be insured by a Confederacy; that as a separate and independent state Texas would be weak and incapable of self-defence; that she would be unable to protect her seaports, and would be compelled to collision with our Northern Southern States; that the similarity of institutions and products, which are now bonds of union and the cause of harmony, would become causes of rivalries, jealousies and perhaps wars between the States; that in the Confederacy we would not be a weak and dependent people, incapable of resisting insult or repelling aggression. The subject was then waived, and we talked of other matters.

But for the fact you had called my attention to the correspondence between the Governor of Texas and the French consular agent at Galveston, this interview would, perhaps, have made no impression upon my mind, but as an introduction to me was sought by the Vice-Consul, with the view to obtain statistical information in regard to Texas, and the subject of the separate independence of that State was then introduced by him, it struck me that it was not casual or accidental. He furthermore stated to me that he had written to the consular agents of France in relation to the subject of the resources of Texas, and had received from him a specimen or sample of Texas wool, which he either had or intended to send to France.

I have deemed it proper to communicate the foregoing to you, as affording confirmatory evidence to the conclusion that it is the object of Louis Napoleon and perhaps of other of the European Powers, to induce Texas to assume an independent nationality. The fact was communicated by you to Gen. WEBB, and I repeat it to you on my guard, and deem it no more secret and special than I might otherwise have done, for the purpose of disarming such [illegible] of a plan, based on cotton certificates, [illegible]

[illegible] Richmond.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Hon. JAMES M. MASON, Commissioner, &c., &c., Paris.

RICHMOND, Oct. 13, 1862.

P. S. Since the foregoing was written I have had an interview with Mr. TASSOUILLE, and from the explanations offered by him, and certain acts which have come to my knowledge, I have become satisfied that, notwithstanding the singular correspondence between his correspondent with Mr. OLDHAM and the alleged mission of Mr. TRENOR to Gov. LUBBOCK, there was no concert of action between them, and that Vice-Gov. has no party to the intrigue referred to. The letter he has written to Mr. TRENOR, of which I send you a copy, will receive by the same that copy of a letter to him, marked B.

It is barely possible, though I think not probable, that Trenor may have acted on his own ideas of what he supposed would be agreeable to his superiors, and not in consequence of any concert. The whole affair is a matter of great delicacy, and I must leave it to your own discretion how far to trust it, after endeavoring to satisfy yourself with Trenor's movements were directed by the French Consul. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

[Private and confidential.]
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
AUSTIN, TEXAS, Sept. 11, 1862.

To his Excellency, Jefferson Davis, President, &c., Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to forward for your consideration the inclosed copies of letters, the one (marked A) from the French and Spanish Consul at Galveston, the other (marked B) being my reply thereto.

At the meeting of the Congress would seem to indicate an incipient interest. I have deemed it proper to advise you thereof on the threshold.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant, F. R. LUBBOCK.

(A) [Confidential.]
CONSULATE AGENCY OF FRANCE AND VICE-CONSULATE FOR SPAIN IN GALVESTON,
GALVESTON, Aug. 16, 1862.

To His Excellency F. R. Lubbock, Governor of the State of Texas:

SIR: Will you be kind enough to inform me confidentially of your personal opinion on the following questions:

1. The annexation of the Republic of Texas to the United States was or was not a good political measure?

2. The act of disunion and of the junction of the State of Texas to the Southern States, was or was not another good or bad politic taken by the State? And,

3. The redestablishment of the old Republic of Texas will or will not be beneficial to our beloved adopted country?

Your answer to these questions, Sir, will serve me as a guide in my political correspondence with the Governments which I have the honor to represent.

I have the honor, Sir, and with very much respect, to be your obedient servant, E. THERON,
French and Spanish Consul.

I certify the above and foregoing to be a true copy of the original now on file in the Executive Department at Austin, Texas.

JAMES PAUL, Private Secretary.

(B) EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
AUSTIN, TEXAS, Sept. 9, 1862.

E. Theron, Esq., French and Spanish Consul, Galveston:

SIR: Your communication of 16th ultimo is before me, and contents duly noted.

In answer to your first interrogatory, permit me to say that the annexation of Texas to the United States was a good political measure.

As to your second question, I answer most emphatically that "the act of disunion out of the junction of the State of Texas to the Southern States was a good and proper political step."

In reply to your third inquiry, I have to say "the redestablishment of the old Republic of Texas will not be beneficial to our beloved adopted country."

Texas has linked her fate with that of her sisters of the South. She will be true, steadfast and victorious. I have the honor to be,

Yours very respectfully, F. R. LUBBOCK.

True copy of the original.
JAMES PAUL, Private Secretary.

(B) RICHMOND, Oct. 13, 1862.

His Excellency Jefferson Davis, President, &c.:

SIR: On to-day M. TASSOUILLE, French Vice-Consul at Richmond, sought an introduction to me in the Senate chamber, and stated that he desired to obtain from me certain statistical information in regard to Texas. I told him that I did not then have the time to give him the desired information, but if he would call at my room I would take pleasure in giving him any information which I possessed. He promised to call this evening, which he did, and has just left my room. I deem it proper to give you the substance of the conversation between us, as it had a connection with the subject matter of the correspondence between the Governor of Texas and French Consular Agent at Galveston, of which you advised Gen. WEBB and myself a few days since.

After I had furnished him with information in regard to the area, population, debt, taxes and agricultural productive capacity of Texas, he remarked that the resources of the State were magnificent, and capable of supporting a population of such adjacent people, and then asked me *whether I thought it would be in the interest of the State to assume an independent attitude.* I told him that the people of Texas, being mostly emigrants from the old Southern States, were strongly attached to these States, and to our Federative system of Government, which [illegible] at some length explained to him. I told him that they never could have been induced to secede from the United States but to preserve that form of Government which was in danger of being destroyed. I further stated to him that not only the affections and sympathies, but also the interests of the people of Texas bound them to the States of the Confederacy; that their institutions, parentage, and agricultural products were the same, and that mutual safety required fraternal amount them, which could only be insured by a Confederacy; that as a separate and independent state Texas would be weak and incapable of self-defence; that she would be unable to protect her seaports, and would be compelled to collision with our Northern Southern States; that the similarity of institutions and products, which are now bonds of union and the cause of harmony, would become causes of rivalries, jealousies and perhaps wars between the States; that in the Confederacy we would not be a weak and dependent people, incapable of resisting insult or repelling aggression. The subject was then waived, and we talked of other matters.

But for the fact you had called my attention to the correspondence between the Governor of Texas and the French consular agent at Galveston, this interview would, perhaps, have made no impression upon my mind, but as an introduction to me was sought by the Vice-Consul, with the view to obtain statistical information in regard to Texas, and the subject of the separate independence of that State was then introduced by him, it struck me that it was not casual or accidental. He furthermore stated to me that he had written to the consular agents of France in relation to the subject of the resources of Texas, and had received from him a specimen or sample of Texas wool, which he either had or intended to send to France.

I have deemed it proper to communicate the foregoing to you, as affording confirmatory evidence to the conclusion that it is the object of Louis Napoleon and perhaps of other of the European Powers, to induce Texas to assume an independent nationality. The fact was communicated by you to Gen. WEBB, and repeat it to you on my guard, and deem it no more secret and special than I might otherwise have done, for the purpose of disarming such [illegible] of a plan, based on cotton certificates, [illegible]

[illegible] Richmond.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Hon. JAMES M. MASON, Commissioner, &c., &c., Paris.

P. S.—Mrs. DAVIS begs me to say that she anticipates with especious the promised letter from your daughter, which has not yet reached Richmond.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. MASON.

(No. 6.) DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 13, 1862.

SIR:—I avail myself of an opportunity of acknowledge receipt of your Nos. 1 and 2. They have been read with lively interest, and you will not fail to keep the Department fully advised of your conclusions as to the probable action of European Powers, as fast as their views are developed, either through the Press or other agencies.

The President has been so fully occupied with military affairs that it has been scarcely possible for me to confer with him at length on the matters suggested by you, and he has just departed very suddenly for a tour in the Southwest, where his presence was greatly needed to restore affairs and to impart renewed energy and activity to our military operations.

On his return I will take measures to forward you additional means to enable you to extend the field of your operations, and to embrace, if possible, the Free of Central Europe in your campaign. Austria and Prussia, as well as the smaller Germanic Powers, seem to require intelligence of the true condition of our affairs, and of the nature of our struggle, and it is to be hoped you may find means to act with efficiency in molding public opinion in those countries.

When I send you a remittance, on the return of the President, (at the end of this month,) I will give you my views more at large.

The bearer of this goes in part to contemplate arrangements for more prompt communication, and I hope that for the future my dispatches will reach Europe more regularly and promptly.

Your obedient servant,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

EDWIN DE LEON, Esq.,
Care of Hon. JOHN SLIDELL, &c., Paris.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. MASON.

[Duplicate.]
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Sept. 26, 1862.

Hon. James M. Mason, &c., &c., Paris:

SIR: Since my No. 9, of 19th July, I have received three communications from you, (not numbered,) all of which arrived on the 20th August. I also received duplicate of your No. 11, of 16th May.

To your general dispatch of 23d June the number 12 has been affixed. To another dispatch of same date, in relation to a newly invented gunpowder, the number 13 has been affixed; and to your dispatch of 24th June, in relation to counterfeit issues of the Confederate Treasury notes and other Southern paper currency, the number 14 has been affixed. I may yet be able to make your numbers correspond with mine, and to notify your Secretary of this oversight, that it may not be repeated.

Of our numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are still missing, and the importance of the contents of the Department's dispatches Nos. 4 and 5 induces me to request a duplicate of them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Hon. THOUVENEL, Vice-Consul of France, Richmond.

(E.) DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 13, 1862.

SIR: I have seen the President since my interview with yourself and Mr. GILES this morning, and having taken into consideration your explanations in relation to your interview with Mr. OLDHAM, and the other facts stated by you, the President is satisfied that your conversation with Mr. OLDHAM was not conducted by you in a manner to give him reason to hope that you were authorized with the authority to exist, having for its object to induce the withdrawal of the State of Texas from the Confederacy. You will therefore consider the order to depart from the Confederacy as withdrawn, and you will remain at liberty to resume your duties at Secretary. Your obedient servant,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

Messrs. TRENOR, at French Consulate, Richmond.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. MASON.

[No. 8.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 20, 1862.

Hon. John Slidell, &c., &c., &c., Paris:

SIR: Since writing my No. 7 of the 17th and 20th inst., I have received from the hands of Mr. FRAZER (who arrived on the 20th inst.) your No. 10 of the 20th of July, with its very interesting reports of your interviews with the Emperor of France and Mr. THOUVENEL. I had previously received from the 21st inst. your private letter of the 10th of September, forwarded through Mr. MASON, the last having reached me in a shorter time than any communication hitherto had with Europe, and demonstrating the great value of the new mode of intercourse that opened, and which we hope to maintain. Mr. MASON will explain to you the details of that new arrangement, and your Secretary will be to forward your future dispatches through him.

The voluminous contents of your dispatch and that of Mr. MASON have prevented their communication to the President, with whom I desire to confer before answering you. The President is for the moment deeply engaged in military matters, and in endeavoring to repair by new combinations the evils resulting from the failure of the Kentucky campaign, which has overshadowed in some of the European consequences which we so confidently hoped. The only gain has been the capture of a very large amount of supplies.

I have no time to add anything by this conveyance, but another opportunity will offer in a few days for a full dispatch.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

P. S.—Mrs. DAVIS begs me to say that she anticipates with especious the promised letter from your daughter, which has not yet reached Richmond.

MR. BENJAMIN TO MR. MASON.

(No. 9.) DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
RICHMOND, Oct. 17, 1862.

SIR: Hon. Mr. OLDHAM, Senator from the State of TEXAS, having communicated to the President the substance of a conversation held with you on the 12th instant, in the course of which you sought to impress on that Senator the conviction that it would be for the interest of the State of Texas to separate herself from the Confederacy, I am instructed by the President to inform you that your position within the Confederacy has not been in any respect inconsistent with your duties as a citizen of Texas, and that the President desires and intends that you shall continue to occupy the position of Commissioner of Texas, which you have so ably filled since your appointment. The